

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Volume XVII

DENVER, COLORADO

Number 4



SEPTEMBER 1935

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK
ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

Demand Distribution Denver

FROM a live-stock marketing standpoint, the three words above are synonymous. It takes **DEMAND** on a market to create good prices. It takes the ability properly to **DIS-TRIBUTE** to create demand. It takes a location such as **DEN-VER** has to distribute properly.

The **DENVER MARKET** ships up to 500,000 lambs annually to the Atlantic Coast. It supplies the territory west of the Missouri River with feeding cattle and sheep, as well as much area east of there. It ships fat cattle and hogs to the Pacific coast. It has fast railroad service in and out. It has facilities properly to handle large receipts.

DEMAND on the **DENVER MARKET** for all classes of live stock has materially expanded during the past few years. **DEN-VER** is now one of the larger live-stock markets of the nation. It did not get that way by "NETTING" less.



One Dose Life Immunity!

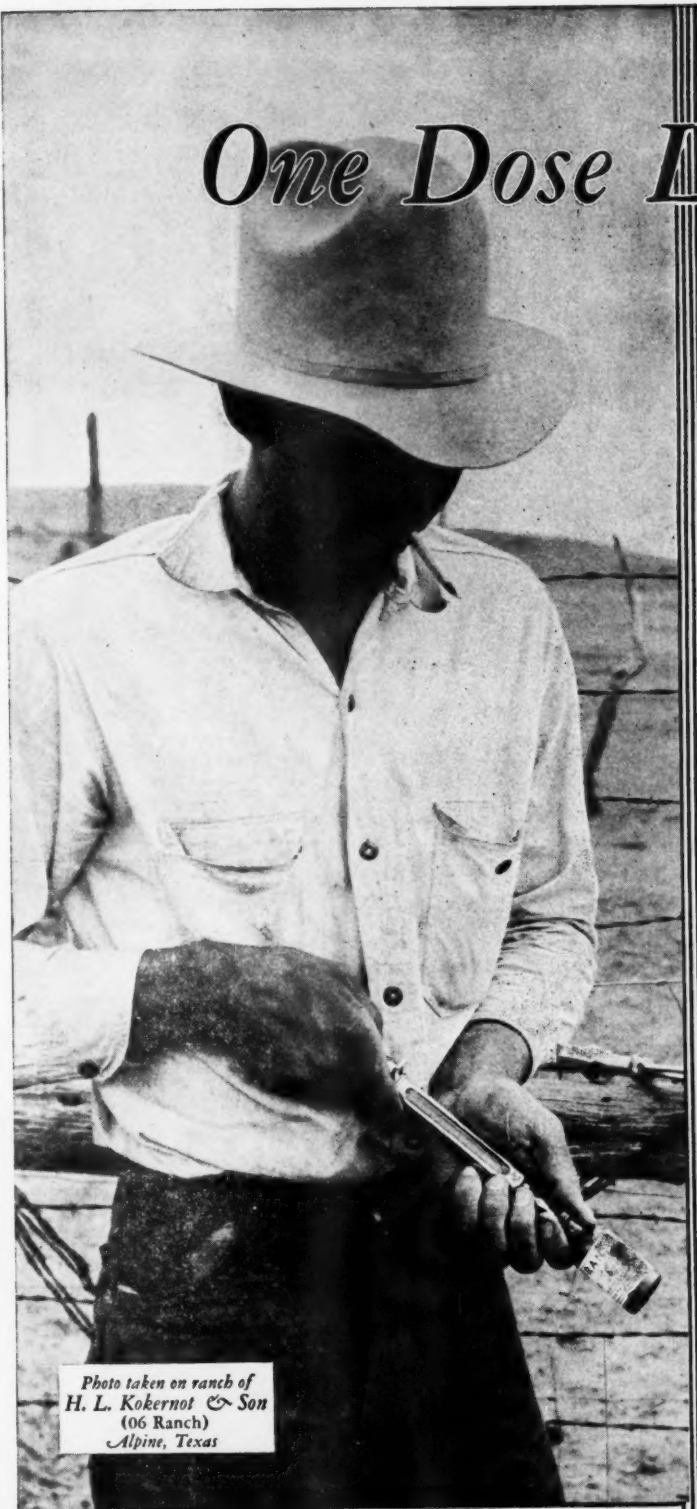


Photo taken on ranch of
H. L. Kokernot & Son
(66 Ranch)
Alpine, Texas

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BLACKLEG
BACTERIN

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They have obtained positive protection with one dose and one handling of the calf.

The dependable immunity given the nearly 20 million calves that have been vaccinated with Franklin Blackleg Bacterin, stands as a record of results unapproached by any other form of Blackleg control.

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A beneficial result of the drought

● Will there be any beneficial results from the drought? It is hard to believe, perhaps, but at least one fortunate development may be expected from what must otherwise be considered a major national catastrophe.

It will be a long time before the livestock raisers of the country will be able to build their herds up again to what they were in 1933. But this part is fortunate: that when those herds are built up they will, by and large, be made up of finer cattle, hogs and sheep than ever before in the history of the industry. The reason is obvious. Stock growers

sacrificed their poorest cattle first, so that the better livestock that remains must produce the new herds, thus raising the average quality of livestock throughout the country.

That this will be a benefit to the consumer of meat goes without saying, for everyone knows that fine meat can be had only from a fine animal. But more than that—this improvement in livestock will help the producer, for it will mean that the women of the country will be more willing to pay what the meat is worth.

A. H. Cabee
President

ARMOUR AND COMPANY

THE AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Volume XVII

DENVER, COLORADO, SEPTEMBER, 1935

Number 4

Branding and the Cattleman's Dollar

BY FRASER M. MOFFAT

President, Tanners' Council of America

EACH YEAR A GREAT ARMY OF CATTLE surrenders to the needs of mankind one of the most ancient and useful of raw materials. In the United States alone these cattle would form, ten abreast and marching with compact ranks, a procession stretching across the continent. The rear-guard of this vast array would be grazing in Jersey meadows, while three thousand miles away the leaders would be looking hungrily at the new scenes and green pastures of California. Millions of cattle (from yearlings upward) of all kinds and descriptions! There are white-faced Herefords and black-and-white Holsteins. There are range cattle from plains and prairies, and sleek, well-groomed cows from dairy farms. A startling breadth of democracy in this continent-spanning belt of cattle—good, bad, and nondescript; cattle from a thousand hills and valleys.

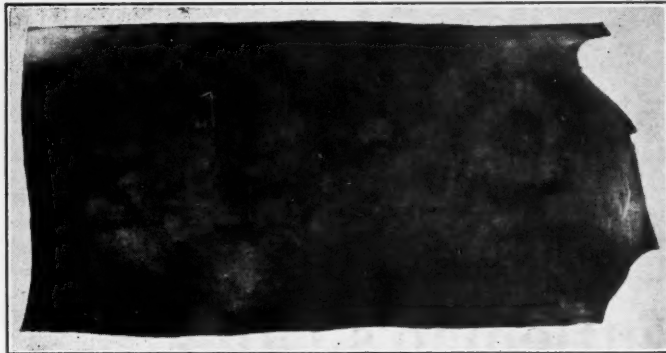
From this great procession comes the raw material which an industry as ancient as agriculture has employed to fabricate some of mankind's most useful possessions. The overcoats of these animals are what the tanning industry must use to produce that unique, and yet commonplace, substance which since time immemorial has been known as leather. The marvelous protective structure with which nature has endowed these animals, and which industry later uses as the raw material for leather, has never been duplicated. Leather remains an inimitable substance, despite all the efforts and the great advances of science.

So closely are the herdsmen and the makers of leather tied together economically that, if there were no great ranges on which animals might breed and develop, and no dairy farms, and no farmers, there would be no tanning industry. And so, accordingly, we in the leather industry look to the agricultural interests of this nation with respect and consideration, for you supply our essential needs. Many of the problems of the cattle-raiser become our problems, particularly when acts of providence or government upset the normal routine of economic events. As the years roll by, we should like to think, too, that those who are most vitally interested give more and more thought to what happens to this charging multitude of life which exists and passes, and is converted into essentials for the well-being of countless millions.

Enormous Consumption of Hides

The hides of the army of cattle which I described, amounting to approximately 18,000,000, represent one year's supply for American tanners. A great deal more raw material is used, including many other types of animal coverings. American tanners use millions of calfskins, millions of goatskins, horse hides, pigskins, snakeskins, and, in fact, almost every type of animal skin. The greater part of these raw materials is imported from all over the world, but the cattle hides, with which we are concerned for the present, are, for the most part, domestic products.

Statistics are usually tiresome, but there are certain facts in regard to that annual march of cattle which have a peculiar interest. The cattle hides which American tanners consume—approximately 18,000,000 annually—are transformed into an enormous quantity of leather; enough leather, in fact, to



FINISHED SOLE-LEATHER BEND—GRAIN SIDE

cover a forty-foot highway from New York to California, with a surplus remaining for the highway to extend up the Pacific to Oregon. It is leather sufficient to provide a pair of all-leather shoes for every man, woman, and child in the United States, with ample material left over for new sets of harness, suitcases, and belts. And there would still be enough left over to provide a good deal of leather for driving the machines of industry—a use, incidentally, for which adequate substitutes have never been found.

It is statistics such as the foregoing that give the prosaic facts and things of life a new and merited importance. Leather is too easily taken for granted; and so are the hides, which are a basic and valuable natural resource. Emphasis upon the preservation of the full value of hides cannot be great enough. It is a matter in which the interests of cattle-raisers and tanners are inseparable.

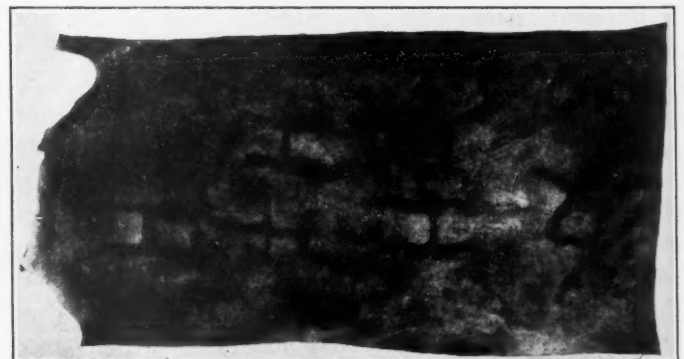
Hot-Iron Branding Method Four Hundred Years Old

In that great procession of animals mentioned above, there cannot fail to be (and this will be confirmed by your own experience) many animals which are not all as they should be. There are the lame, the halt, and the blind. One characteristic in particular is outstanding: many of these animals carry on their left side scars, which mean that they have belonged to someone. Sometimes these scars cover the whole side of the animal, sometimes a smaller area; but in every case they have been put there by man, in his endeavor to identify and protect his property. *Branding*, of course, arose from the necessity of identifying an asset for the owner thereof. Nearly four hundred years ago the Spanish pioneers of the Southwest marked their animals with a red-hot branding-iron. Life was cheap in those days. It

was farthest from the thoughts of those old *conquistadores* that in the use of a branding-iron they were damaging their assets to the extent that has been proved in these later days.

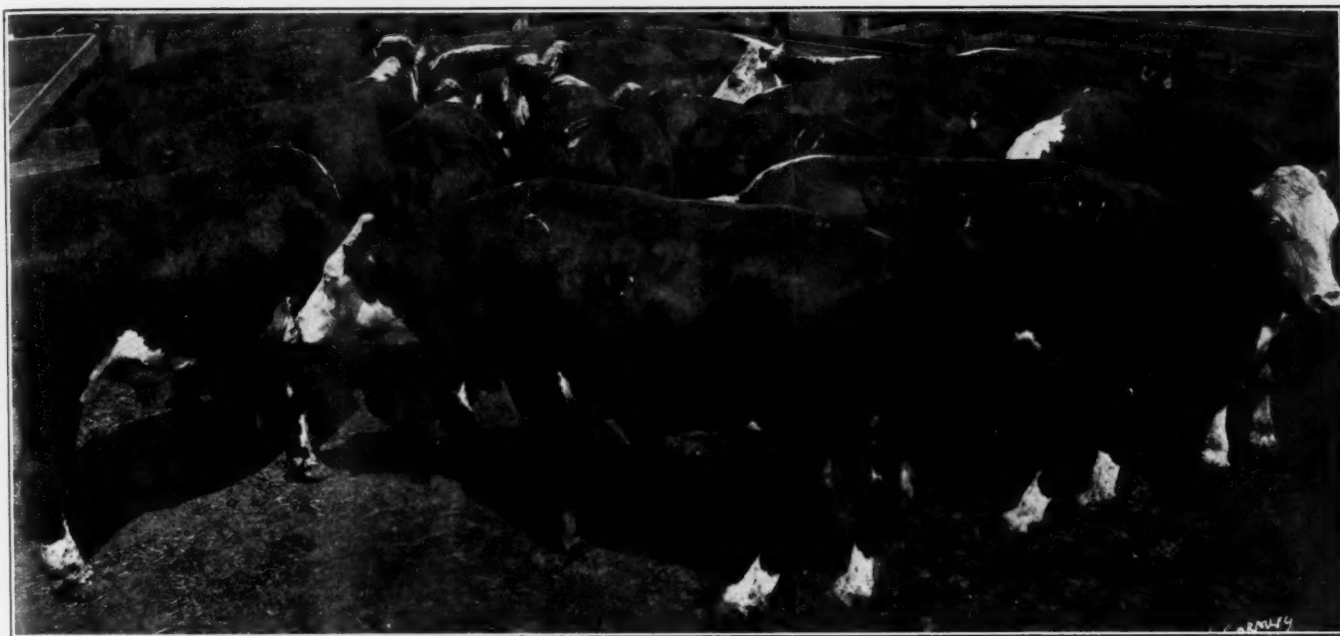
Since that time, now nearly four centuries, the range-owner has relied on this method of identifying his property in cattle. Other countries have recognized the frightful waste of assets which this practice entails. In the Argentine, where millions of animals roam the pampas, the use of the "fire-brand" has long ago been abandoned. You will say climatic conditions made this possible; but that is not entirely true. The damage to the animal in the use of the hot iron may not stop with the damage to the hide, as fewer pounds of beef are probable in the case of "beef critters" when finished. It has been estimated that the damage by branding the hides of range cattle—cows and steers alone—amounts to upward of \$6,000,000 annually; for it is entirely possible to estimate the effect and loss of branding on hides. The tanner never gets enough good leather from the hides which are supplied to him, and branding, definite and deliberate, is one of the reasons why. To destroy values, when every effort is being made to keep and increase those values, is not common-sense. Many range men think of their animals in terms only of beef on the hoof, but in selling them they will readily find that a heavily branded "beef critter" brings less than one which is either free of brands or lightly branded on butt or cheek.

This aspect of their problem has never been accurately presented to cattlemen. It is the intent of this article, and succeeding articles, to tell the story from the leather-man's standpoint. This standpoint



FLESH SIDE OF FINISHED BEND

has a definite and practical interest for cattlemen who, whether they are aware of it or not, are materially affected. It is high time, in this year of 1935, to attempt seriously to demonstrate to cattlemen the destruction of assets entailed by branding, and to stir up thinking as to the adoption of a better method of identifying cattle at a substantial decrease



CATTLE WITH LARGE, DESTRUCTIVE HOT-IRON BRANDS ON PRIME PORTION OF HIDES

in the ultimate losses and costs. Calling our present practice barbaric, inhuman, uneconomic, and unnecessary would merely be hitching a lot of names to a practice which may easily continue. It is our duty as leather people first of all to show how closely we and the agricultural interests are tied together, and then point out how we could mutually help each other, practically and simply. To many who might read these articles a new idea may come, and that is our hope. Last year a simple beginning was made in the identification by the government of some of those animals which had to be killed because of drought conditions. The use of chemical brands on a large scale was then shown to be practical and possible. It may be that the emergency and disaster brought us a lesson which we must quickly recognize.

Damaging Effect of Branding

Before leaving the subject, it might be well to cite a few facts and figures which will serve to emphasize the importance of the tanners' plea in your minds. Everyone knows that leather is the best material in the world for shoes. Its unique qualities allow of no substitution—in sole leather, for example—which would be consistent with the requirements of health. But the cost of shoes is determined to a great extent by the cost of leather, which is, in turn, affected by the practice of branding. Hot-iron brands destroy, definitely and positively, a large volume of leather. Such leather might have been usable in any number of ways; it is, however, definitely rendered waste through branding. Consider, for example, that eight or ten of the large packers kill upward of 7,000,000 cattle annually. Of these, 50 per cent or

more are branded. Some of these branded hides are so heavily scarred that a good deal of leather, potentially useful as harness, clothing, and other necessary articles, is destroyed. This destruction touches cattle-raisers, both as producers of hides and as consumers of leather. Elimination of the damage resulting from branding would raise the value of hides. Through decreasing the cost of finished, useful leather there would be created an expanding market for leather, since leather could compete more effectively with substitutes. This would, in turn, tend to support and stabilize the value of hides. Finally, the cost of shoes, harness, etc., would tend to be reduced.

Less Destructive Method Should Be Found

Within the past few years, science has found a way to mark animals which does not have the destructive effect upon hide substance of hot-iron branding. Is it not time, in pure self-interest, to give consideration to such methods? Cannot other methods of branding, so long as branding is necessary, take the place of the hot iron? Such methods may not be perfected, perhaps, but so far as they avoid complete destruction, they are deserving of the greatest thought. Such new methods may, incidentally, allow greater beef production per animal; but that is not the tanner's chief concern. His chief concern is to get hides which have not been damaged by arbitrary, unskilful, uneconomic, and, withal, unnecessary methods. He wants hides with greater value and more leather; he is anxious that cattle-raisers participate in the economic benefits which can then be forthcoming. We are all busily engaged in saving or trying to save money at every point. Why not begin here?

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY WYOMING WOOL GROWERS

AT THE CONVENTION OF THE WYOMING WOOL Growers' Association, held in Laramie July 30-August 1, report of which was made in the August issue of THE PRODUCER, the following resolutions were adopted:

Requesting co-operation of associations, individuals, and administrators of Taylor Grazing Act in establishing adequate, permanent live-stock trails;

Opposing extension of national parks, federal game preserves where live-stock grazing is restricted, and national forests;

Objecting to friendly suits brought by federal departments which establish precedents for further encroachment on natural resources of state;

Condemning proposed sanitary treaty with Argentina, and requesting continuance of present embargo against importation of live stock or meats from any country where foot-and-mouth disease exists;

Requesting further reduction in assessment of grazing lands;

Urging Secretary of Interior to apportion from PWA funds adequate sum for Biological Survey work;

Asking co-operation of cotton industry in bringing about correction of discriminatory labeling practices;

Championing agricultural fibers in competition with industrial textile fibers;

Expressing policy of not insisting on labeling of merchandise of low virgin-wool content when merchants co-operate in labeling goods of high virgin-wool content;

Considering commission and stock-yard charges still unjustifiably high, and requesting that proceedings in pending cases be expedited;

Urging Farm Credit Administration to liberalize credit on purebred flocks;

Opposing Wheeler bill, S. 1629, and urging that any regulation of trucks be in public interest and designed to preserve competition between trucks and railroads;

Requesting enactment of legislation providing for consolidation of all bureaus and departments doing work for wool industry, and placing such consolidated agency under Bureau of Animal Industry;

Condemning Reciprocal Tariff Act, and asking its repeal;

Urging wool-growers to co-operate with and support Associated Wool Industries, organized to promote market for wool; and suggesting use of term "virgin wool" in their publicity;

Pledging support in all efforts to resist encroachment of federal government on primal state rights;

Urging American Farm Bureau Federation to assist in bringing about agreements between Farm Credit Administration, Division of Grazing, and Forest Service to establish operating-unit-earning-power principle, which would permit Farm Credit Administration more effectively to serve stockmen of West;

Opposing legislation tending to obstruct unlimited use of highways in distribution of all forms of useful commodities;

Recommending that suitable trophy be awarded outstanding 4-H Sheep Club of Wyoming.

Committee reports were made as follows:

Forest Grazing.—Opposing regulations detrimental to stabilization of wool industry; requesting that future policy of Forest Service be precisely stated; and urging that ten-year permits be granted, starting with 1936 season;

Public Lands.—Expressing willingness to co-operate in every way to help Department of Interior in administration of Taylor Grazing Act;

Lamb-Marketing.—Requesting government to conduct investigation into relationship of prices, lamb-buying practices, and distribution of lamb; indorsing activities of National Live Stock and Meat Board; asking government to include lamb and mutton in purchases of meats for army, navy, CCC, and relief purposes; and urging packers plainly to mark lamb carcasses so as to show their quality;

Wool-Marketing.—Recommending that sale of wool by public auction be given trial in Wyoming, that wools be graded in accordance with standards of Bureau of Agricultural Economics; expressing appreciation to Bureau of Ani-

mal Industry and Wool Section of University of Wyoming for helpful services; approving passage of resolution to investigate wool-marketing conditions; urging members to refrain from consigning to wool-dealers who buy wool, and petitioning Congress to pass legislation forbidding practice of handling wool both on speculation and on consignment; urging growers to have off-sort wool made into blankets and other articles for own use and sale; and expressing intention of using every proper means to win American consumer market for wool;

Izaak Walton League.—Recommending appointment of representative to Izaak Walton League Wild Life Planning Committee, to co-operate with organizations interested in wild life, plan for its orderly propagation and restoration, and co-operate in developing recreational and wild-life resources in Wyoming.

A ROUND OF ARIZONA MEETINGS

STARTING OUT FROM PHOENIX ON AN EXTENSIVE tour of Arizona cattle-raising sections, a group of Arizona cattlemen, largely made up of members of the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, including Frank S. Boice, of Sonoita; Mrs. J. M. Keith, of Phoenix, secretary of the Arizona association, and F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, arrived at Clifton on August 3, to make that town its first camping-ground. A large group of local cattlemen had already gathered at this point, all set for a meeting. What brought them there, undoubtedly, was interest in such problems as the proposed sanitary convention with Argentina, the threat of cuts in live-stock tariffs through reciprocal trade agreements, and the processing-tax question—intense issues before the live-stock world today.

Ed Ellis, of Clifton, presided. Speakers included Charles U. Pickrell, of Phoenix; Pecos McFadden, of Globe, local forest supervisor; Ben Foster, of the Biological Survey; William R. Bourdon, of Holbrook, president of the Northern Arizona Cattlemen's Association; A. J. Bryce, of Pima, president of the Cochise-Graham Cattle Growers' Association; O. K. Cook, of the Chamber of Commerce; Matt Danehauer, state representative; and Fred Fritz, of Clifton, secretary of the Greenlee County Cattlemen's Association. F. E. Mollin spoke on the subjects of the Argentine sanitary convention, tariffs, reciprocal trade agreements, and the cattle program; Frank S. Boice and Mrs. J. M. Keith dealt with activities of the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association's committees on tax assessments and public lands and forests. This trio also spoke at the various subsequent meetings in the circuit, generally reiterating their remarks on these topics. A banquet closed this meeting.

The next stop was at Springerville, on August 5, where a meeting, presided over by William R. Bourdon, included, in addition to several of the tourists, the following speakers: J. C. Wetzler, of Holbrook, secretary of the Northern Arizona Cattlemen's Association; Dr. F. E. Schneider, of Albuquerque, New Mexico; Charles P. Mullen, of Tempe; William A. Spence, of Springerville; and Marshall H. Flake, of Snowflake. At this meeting a check for \$650 was tendered Secretary Mollin by the Northern Arizona organization for the furtherance of the activities of the American National Live Stock Association.

From Springerville the itinerants went to Young, meeting there at a barbecue with a group of local stockmen on August 7. Stephen L. Bixby, of Globe, president of the Gila County Cattle Growers' Association, presided. Lee Kirby, supervisor of the Tonto National Forest, and others who had addressed previous meetings spoke at this gathering.

On August 9 the group arrived at Prescott, where, at a luncheon meeting presided over by Jerome O. Eddy, of Skull Valley, vice-president of the Yavapai Cattle Growers' Associa-

tion, the attending cattlemen heard talks given by M. B. Hazeltine, of Prescott; Norman Fain, of Camp Verde; Earl Horrell, of Phoenix; and Miss Charlotte Hall, state historian.

The next meeting was held at Willcox on August 12, where A. J. Bryce presided. Local speakers and various of the touring cattlemen addressed this gathering, which was the last in the itinerary.

INTERNATIONAL BEEF TRADE

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE FROM THE *PASTORAL Review*, published in Melbourne, which gives extracts from the Imperial Economic Committee's report on world trade in meat products, is an interesting record of beef-marketing during recent years:

"International trade in beef has declined materially since the post-war expansion, when European countries were rebuilding their depleted herds. Aggregate exports from the principal countries in 1933 were 9 per cent smaller than in 1932. There was probably a further fall in 1934, when exports from Argentina—by far the greatest exporter—were slightly less than in 1933, and 25 per cent below the figure for 1928. Between 1928 and 1933 exports from Uruguay were reduced by 21 per cent, and exports from Brazil, despite an expansion in intervening years, declined by 36 per cent.

"The United Kingdom is easily the principal importing country for beef and veal, and has taken an expanding share of world exports. In 1933 the United Kingdom accounted for 84 per cent of the imports into the eight principal importing countries, compared with only 72 per cent of the same countries' imports in 1928. European countries formerly absorbed a fair proportion of the exports of frozen beef, but, owing to tariffs and import restrictions, these markets have dwindled to minor significance; Italy, France, and Belgium combined imported less than 2,000,000 cwt. of beef and veal in 1933 and 1934, compared with over 4,000,000 cwt. in 1928. United Kingdom imports of frozen beef increased between 1932 and 1933, while imports of chilled beef declined. These movements were reversed in 1934.

"The Empire share in the beef imports of the United Kingdom, which fell from 13.4 to 10 per cent between 1926 and 1930, increased to 24.5 per cent in 1934. These figures exclude meat from live cattle, which declined substantially in 1934. Home-produced beef and veal in 1933 comprised nearly 46 per cent of total British supplies—a higher percentage than in either of the two preceding years, but one which was undoubtedly surpassed in 1934.

"A recent feature of the beef trade has been the successful inauguration of chilled-beef exports from Empire countries. Prior to 1932, this trade was negligible, but shipments approached a quarter of a million cwt. in 1934, Canada, South Africa, southern Rhodesia, Australia, and New Zealand all participating. The total United Kingdom imports of chilled beef in 1934 were 8,250,000 cwt."

PUREBRED DEMAND FIRM

FRANK D. TOMSON

Wakarusa, Kansas

FACING THE MOST EXTENSIVE FEED SHORTAGE this generation has known, one would naturally expect a general weakness in the tone of purebred trade. Yet the contrary is true. Not only that, but the purebred demand is of very general scope. I do not wish to convey the impression that this demand is as general or as brisk as it would be if feed were more generally available and cheaper in price. This handicap, however, does not retard the trade to the extent one would naturally expect it to.

The averages in recent Shorthorn sales do not leave any doubt as to the firmness of the demand for breeding stock. There is another factor—a primary one—that has had a retarding effect. It is the scarcity of the wherewithal to make

necessary and desired investments. There is not any shortage of actual money. The banks are overflowing with it—well, not exactly overflowing either, but they have got it, and as the patrons indicate a more positive willingness to make investments on borrowed capital the money will be available. When that times comes, there will certainly be a real enlivening of the trade. This will result in a considerable advance in prices.

I look for such advance as soon as grass hits its stride next spring. With fairly encouraging crop prospects, there will be a general quest for good cattle to stock the denuded pastures. The millions of cattle that were rushed out of the dry districts wiped up the surplus that we have heard so much about. But it did more than that; it dipped deeply into needed supplies. We will be a long time beating back. Every man owning purebreds will be in on the furnishing of the material to get going again.

I remember when Colonel W. A. Harris dispersed his Shorthorn herd at Linwood, Kansas, in 1896, at a low average. Yet within two years purebred values had doubled, and within another two years had increased 50 per cent more, and by 1902, just two years later, they repeated. It is hard to conceive of such advances when we have grown accustomed to nominal prices. Yet every revival in purebred trade has witnessed just such stair-stepping in prices. Draft horses, right now, are commanding old-time values, and there are not enough to meet the demands of the trade. Yet as late as two years ago the general public held the opinion that the horse had vanished forever as a factor in transportation and farm power.

When C. S. Cross, of Emporia, Kansas, bought Hereford bulls by the dozens for \$40 and \$50 a head in 1896, there were plenty of folks who regarded it poor business. When, in 1898, he made a sale and sold some of these bulls at \$400 a head, they had a different thought. There had not been any systematic, government-controlled depletion of surpluses then. There had been bad years, just as there have been recently. That was all.

Here we are, with short and expensive live-stock rations, seeing an underlying determination to buy purebred beef cattle, and sales are being made at surprisingly good prices. The records of 1896, 1898, 1900, and 1902 serve as a dependable index of what will happen—and soon.

FARM EXPORTS LOWEST IN MANY YEARS

EXPORTS OF FARM PRODUCTS FROM THE UNITED States during the last fiscal year, according to figures given out by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, stood at 54 per cent of pre-war, compared with 83 per cent in 1933-34. Not since 1868, when the figure stood at 50, have agricultural exports been so small as during the year just past. Decline in cotton exports, wheat, cured pork, and lard accounts for the present low index.

The index for cotton exports in 1934-35 stood at 60—the lowest since 1922-23, when it was 59. In 1933-34 it was up to 97. The bureau explains, however, that the base period used for its index—1909-10 to 1913-14—was one during which cotton exports happened to be at a peak level, and that the indexes in the years before and after were low.

The export index for unmanufactured tobacco was 95, compared with 120 in the previous fiscal year; fruit, 197—the lowest since 1924-25, when it was 184; wheat, including flour, 21, compared with 35 in 1933-34; cured pork, 22—the smallest since 1870-71; and lard, 48—the lowest since 1882-83.

NEW LAW REGULATES POULTRY MARKETING

LIVE POULTRY IS NOW SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS of the Packers and Stock-Yards Act, along with other live stock. A bill recently passed by Congress, and approved by the President on August 14, requires that dealers in live poultry in cities to be designated by the Secretary of Agriculture must obtain federal licenses, and must conduct their business under the same general type of supervision as already governs marketing of other live stock. The provision is designated to prevent excessive charges and unfair practices at certain markets where live poultry is sold in large volume.

FATS USED IN MARGARINE

BEEF FATS USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF MARGARINE during the first six months of 1935 totaled 13,719,000 pounds, compared with 11,118,000 pounds in the corresponding period of 1934. Of cottonseed oil, 56,289,000 pounds were used in the 1935 period, as against 14,743,000 pounds during the first half of 1934. This year's use of coconut oil increased 42 per cent over that of the 1934 period.

Total production of oleomargarine during the January to June, 1935, period was 202,746,164 pounds, compared with 113,333,222 pounds during the first six months of 1934—an increase of 79 per cent.

DENVER COMMISSION MEN DENIED INJUNCTION

THE RATE-FIXING POWER OF THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE was upheld in an opinion handed down on August 29 by United States District Judge J. Foster Symes, dissolving a temporary injunction prohibiting the taking effect of rates fixed by the secretary last September.

The case was carried to the district court upon denial by the Secretary of Agriculture of a rehearing, and the fixing of the effective date of the new rates as November 6, 1934, the commission men alleging that the new rates did not allow a reasonable return for their services.

In granting the temporary injunction last November, the court ordered the impounding of the difference between the old rates and those prescribed by the secretary, which amount will be refunded to shippers if further appeal is not taken.

BRUISING OF HOGS COSTS MILLIONS

NEARLY \$3,400,000 WAS LOST BY THE AMERICAN live-stock and meat industry during 1934 as a result of the bruising of hogs, it has been estimated by H. R. Smith, general manager of the National Live Stock Loss Prevention Board. The estimate was based upon a special study conducted in co-operation with the Institute of American Meat Packers, and covering more than 250,000 hogs.

The study disclosed evidence to the effect that the bruising of hogs occurs throughout the route from the farm to the packing-house. It is believed that much of the injury occurs at the time of loading on the truck at the farm. Hurts from fighting and bites were numerous. Wire scratches, bruises from sticks, clubs, or canes, sharp projecting corners, nails and bolts, whips, prod poles, and kicks accounted for a good deal of damage. Canvas slappers were found to be a rare cause of contusions.

STATES REDUCE FARM-LAND TAXES

FARM REAL ESTATE TAXES, ACCORDING TO THE Bureau of Agricultural Economics, decreased 5 per cent between the 1933 and 1934 levies. The estimate was based on reports from twenty states, of which fifteen reported decreases, and five showed increases.

The states in which taxes were lowered are Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Utah, South Dakota, Texas, Washington, and Vermont. Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, New Hampshire, and Virginia made increases.

Bureau figures also showed a decided lowering throughout almost the entire country in farm real estate taxes levied since 1929, when the national average was 241 per cent of pre-war.

FARM INDIVIDUALISTS FORM ORGANIZATION

ANATIONWIDE ORGANIZATION OF FARMERS AND stockmen, founded upon the principle of "protecting them from the further loss of their individual rights," was recently launched by Dan D. Casement, stockman, of Manhattan, Kansas, and other producers of farm and live-stock commodities. The organization will be known as the Farmers' Independence Council of America.

Among the policies that the group will adhere to are the following:

Preservation of the fundamental right to independence of speech, thought, and action in the conduct of private affairs;

Re-establishment of the old-fashioned virtues of industry and self-reliance;

Protection of freedom of the farmer to operate according to his own judgment;

Confinement of federal and state government activities to the ordinary functions of government;

Elimination of government competition with business;

Promotion of legislation that will be to the best interests of agriculture, by removing the present obstacles which are retarding domestic consumption, and checking further loss of export trade;

Vesting in the farmers of the United States, instead of in the federal government, the control of the national agricultural policy.

THE CALENDAR

October 5-12, 1935—Pacific International Live Stock Exposition, Portland, Ore.

October 19-26, 1935—American Royal Live Stock Show, Kansas City, Mo.

October 27-November 2, 1935—Ak-Sar-Ben Live Stock Show, Omaha, Neb.

November 11-15, 1935—Kansas National Live Stock Show, Wichita, Kan.

November 16-23, 1935—Great Western Live Stock Show, Los Angeles, Cal.

November 21-22, 1935—Annual Convention of California Wool Growers' Association, San Francisco, Cal.

November 30-December 7, 1935—International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago, Ill.

December 13-14, 1935—Annual Convention of California Cattle-men's Association, San Francisco, Cal.

JANUARY 7-10, 1936—ANNUAL CONVENTION OF AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION, PHOENIX, ARIZ.

January 11-18, 1936—National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colo.

February 29-March 8, 1936—Houston Fat Stock Show, Houston, Tex.

March 14-22, 1936—Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, Fort Worth, Tex.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

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Volume XVII SEPTEMBER, 1935 Number 4

Louis Warming

AS THIS ISSUE GOES TO PRESS WE ARE SAD to report the death of Louis Warming, editor of the AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER. Of course, his passing was not unexpected. We who saw him often knew that he must go. We saw his strength ebbing with each succeeding month.

But, with the loyalty that was his, he continued to work on. During eight months of confinement to his bed at home, he directed the affairs of the magazine, and gave such help as his weakened condition would permit.

Last spring his hopes ran high. He wanted to see another summer—to be out in surroundings of the living and growing things. But his wish was just partly granted. Only from the window of his room was he allowed to watch the advance and fulfillment of the season he loved the best.

Now in the fall we lay him to rest. On the afternoon of September 8 he died. Death was due to heart disease and complications.

Louis Warming was born in Denmark, December 22, 1866. He was educated at the University of Copenhagen, specializing in languages, and came to this country soon after receiving his degree in 1887. Before coming to Denver, he was for many years associated with the University of Chicago Press in an editorial capacity.

In June, 1919, the first issue of THE PRODUCER rolled off the press. Louis Warming was its editor. He had the wide knowledge and technical equipment that precisely fitted in with this work. He could make THE PRODUCER speak to the point, and speak correctly. Each issue became a masterpiece of those points of make-up that show high editorial skill. THE PRODUCER was his child. He cherished it. He gave to it a matchless loyalty of service and devotion. Labor for THE PRODUCER was to him a labor of pure love.

He leaves surviving him his widow, and a daughter, Evelyn, living in Denver. He also leaves an aged mother, four sisters, and two brothers in Denmark, and a brother in Canada.

We are sad at his passing.

ADDING INSULT TO INJURY

FOR MANY YEARS WISCONSIN HAS LED all states in enacting laws which had for their purpose the complete prohibition of the sale of oleomargarine. All kinds of license requirements were imposed on manufacturers and dealers, bakers, confectioners, hotels, and boarding houses, besides a tax of six cents on every pound sold. In addition, to insure that no product of the cotton-oil producer of the South, or of the beef-cattle producer of the West, would be used, it was required that consumers should pay a license fee of \$1 per annum. The effectiveness of these restrictive measures is demonstrated by the fact that in the year 1933 the total revenue derived therefrom was the magnificent sum of \$1,816.78.

Not satisfied with this practical exclusion of margarine, which is also a product of domestic fats, the 1935 session of the legislature added insult to injury by increasing the tax from six cents a pound to fifteen cents a pound, despite vigorous protests from the South and West.

This arrogant and short-sighted policy has already brought swift and unexpected results. The Wisconsin Manufacturers' Association has announced that contracts running into millions of dollars for Wisconsin agricultural and manufactured products have already been canceled by purchasers offended at the display of gross selfishness. Among the products which Wisconsin sends out in large quan-

tities is condensed milk, and the gain in sales of a few pounds of butter will nowhere near compensate for the loss in sales of that one dairy item alone.

There is no domestic product so discriminated against today as is oleomargarine. The dairy industry has been well organized, and has demanded and secured preferential legislation in many states, with the ultimate object in view of total exclusion. The margarine manufacturers in years past have fought back ineffectually.

Today the situation is different. The producers of other domestic fats have combined with the manufacturers to organize the Institute of American Fats and Oils. Already sixteen states have enacted laws placing the industry on a domestic-fat basis by taxing any product containing foreign fats and oils.

The issue is clearly drawn. There is no reason why cottonseed oil, which is freely sold as Crisco, Snowflake, and other shortenings, should be taxed when sold as margarine. There is no holy quality that attaches itself to the fat extracted through the teat of a cow that does not belong to the choice edible fat taken from the carcasses of federally inspected cattle.

States that go out of their way to prohibit the sale within their borders of products of sister states may expect reprisals of the kind that Wisconsin is now experiencing. It is high time that dairy producers adopt a live-and-let-live policy, and meet competition on a fair basis, just as every other agricultural producer in the country is forced to do.

VETO OF THE TAYLOR GRAZING ACT AMENDMENTS

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT HAS JUST ANNOUNCED that, upon the advice of Secretary Ickes, he has vetoed the amendments to the Taylor Grazing Act. When the bill was pending in the Senate, Secretary Ickes had threatened such action, unless certain amendments, to which he objected, were deleted, and others changed to conform to his wishes.

The particular points at issue were:

First, whether the Senate should accede to the secretary's demand that the entire public domain (172,000,000 acres) be placed under the act. The House bill so ordered, lifting the 80,000,000-acre restriction, but the Senate bill had imposed a new limitation of 142,000,000 acres—the approximate area of all the proposed grazing districts—leaving the remainder of the land available for sale under Section 14, or for lease under Section 15.

Second, whether the Senate should yield to the secretary's insistence for elimination from Section 3 of the act the so-called McCarran amendment, guaranteeing stability of operation, so long as the grazing unit of the permittee was pledged as security for a bona-fide loan.

Third, whether the O'Mahoney amendment, to which the secretary objected, should be added. It called for the granting to the states within two years of any lands not included in grazing districts, or leased under provision of the act.

The veto will be a distinct disappointment to many stockmen whose range areas will not be included in the original 80,000,000-acre grant of power, but who have given Director Carpenter and his assistants every possible co-operation in the preliminary stages of the administration of the act. It will mean the continuation of chaotic conditions in areas where trespassing has been most flagrant.

No doubt Secretary Ickes, by this demonstration of power, hopes to show the Senate that it must legislate in a manner to meet his wishes, and also to start a backfire on them from such of their constituents as have been left out in the cold in the formation of grazing districts under the present act. In the meantime, however, he will have to accept full responsibility for the continuation of the present unsatisfactory situation. In view of the repeated charges from many official sources of the crying need for immediate range control, he may find it difficult to justify his action in the matter. Also, it brings to the front the question of whether the executive branch of the government should not confine its activities to that sphere, contenting itself with the administration of laws duly enacted, and not trying to dominate or dictate to the legislative branch, which, after all, is closer to the needs and desires of the people at home, whom both branches are supposed to serve.

At least, the live-stock industry will be impatient with any further delays in the administration of the original act. A field representative of the Taylor Grazing Administration recently made the following statement:

If the amendments to the Taylor Grazing Act pass Congress, send grazing-permit applications, in duplicate, to the United States Land Office in your district. (Phoenix office for Arizona land.) If the amendments do not pass, public domain in Arizona will come under Section 15 for leasing isolated sections.

There is no good reason why this section should have been rendered inoperative up to the present time, and failure to use it no doubt was one of the major causes for the Senate's taking a firm stand in the matter of amendments. It is entirely possible that next year the Senate will again demand that

it be allowed to exercise its prerogative of legislating to meet the desires of the people, and will make it more plain to the secretary that it is his function to administer the law.

PRACTICAL AND THEORETICAL EROSION CONTROL

THE EDITORIAL ON "THE GREAT AMERICAN Desert" in the August PRODUCER got under the hide of a learned gentleman in the Soil Conservation Service, as will be noted in a letter published in our "Exchange" section.

First let it be said that the editorial was not inspired by swivel-chair views of the erosion-control work now going on. It was based on personal observation of some of these jobs, and contact with many stockmen who hold similar views.

That the editorial did not exaggerate the comeback on many western ranges is best evidenced by government reports on range and live-stock conditions, and by the unusually large percentage of fat lambs that are now moving direct to packers.

The absurd statement in the letter mentioned, about current and former carrying capacity of the range, merely shows that adding a Ph. D. to your signature is no guarantee of either accuracy or good common-sense.

Of course, live-stock producers will co-operate in spending the money now allotted to this work. The money must be spent. Why not get your share of it! For the time being, the question of how the work is to be paid for is conveniently laid aside.

The time will soon come, however, when appropriations for this service will be made with a closer eye to the value of the work done. When that time comes, it will be impossible to justify the squandering of more money on five acres of mountain country than a whole section is worth, no matter how much the neat little rows of rocks may add to the scenic beauty. Nor can Uncle Sam long continue to spend money on private property for improvements that even in good years have been beyond the reach of the owner. After all, Uncle Sam is simply you, and I, and the other fellow.

Already there are signs in Washington that responsible administration leaders, such as Secretary Morgenthau and Chairman Buchanan of the House Appropriations Committee, are becoming concerned over unduly large appropriations. The brakes will soon be put on, and the Soil Conservation Service, in common with many other agencies, will be obliged to confine its activities to sound projects, and restrain some of its overenthusiastic so-called "experts" from wasting millions of dollars on thoroughly impractical and impossible methods of control.

SHOES FOR THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

DESPITE STRENUOUS PROTESTS FROM the allied farm, dairy, and live-stock groups of the entire country, fully supported by the tanning and leather industries, it has just been announced that a large quantity of shoes, equipped with composition soles and heels, have been purchased for the boys in the CCC camps.

In seeking valid excuses for favoring foreign materials, Director Robert Fechner and his assistants lay great stress upon the need for economy, which, in view of the lavish expenditures in equipping these camps, is entitled to the distinction of Joke No. 1.

Excuse No. 2 is the aid it will give to the cotton industry, as a small percentage of cotton is used in composition soles.

Excuse No. 3 is the hope that there will be fewer accidents from slipping. This is nothing more than a hope, and is not based upon any supporting data. In fact, anyone who has ever used composition-soled shoes well knows that cheapness is their one and only virtue.

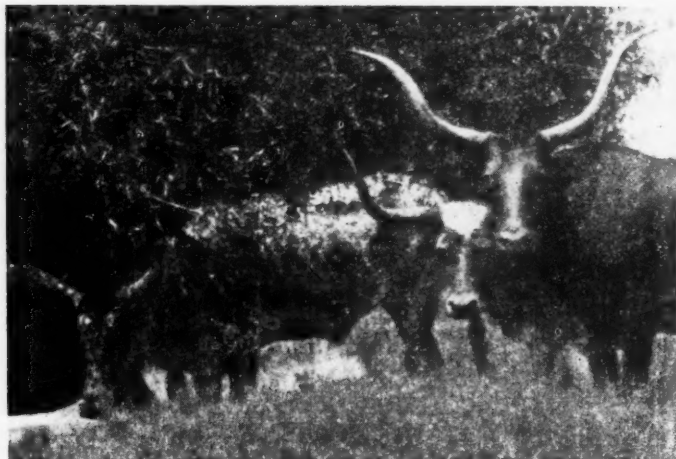
Someone has put over a good job of salesmanship, and American producers, as usual, are the losers. It would be still cheaper to have the boys go barefooted, if Uncle Sam has reached a point where he cannot afford to buy the products of our own farms, ranches, and industries. A small percentage of the sum spent by white-collar men from Washington "inspecting" the CCC camps this summer, and, incidentally, having a nice vacation at government expense, would have equipped all the CCC boys with good leather shoes for week days, and an extra pair for Sunday. But, my, my, how economical they become when they get their feet back on the desks in Washington.

SAFETY CAMPAIGNS

ON OCTOBER 1, THE AMERICAN RED CROSS will open a nationwide program to eliminate unnecessary accidents in the farms and homes of the country. The campaign is being launched because last year, in the United States alone, 34,500 persons were accidentally killed in the home, 150,000 permanently crippled, and millions temporarily disabled. More people were killed accidentally in agricultural pursuits than in any other occupation. Almost all of these accidents, according to experts, could have been prevented.

Fewer mishaps should be the result of campaigns such as this one. They serve as a reminder that injuries may befall one in the midst of his peaceful abode. They will remind you to be more careful.

THE STOCKMEN'S EXCHANGE



THE LAST OF THE LONGHORNS

(Copyrighted)

BUFFALO, WYO., July 21, 1935.

Ah! Lackaday!
And far away
Are the Llano plains so drear.
My freedom's gone,
And I mope along,
Captured to make a tourist jeer.

Slab-sided am I,
And scant of beam—
A warrior at bay.
Yet they stare at me
And torture me
For a tourist holiday.

I long to be
Where I can see
The cactus o'er the land;
Where I can roam
In my old, old home
On the banks of the Rio Grande.

I think of the land,
The camp on the sand.
They put me to die here alone.
I mope, and I dream,
As the sunbeams gleam,
Of my old cowtown, San Antone.

EDWARD BURNETT.

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE RARES UP

SAFFORD, ARIZ., August 21, 1935.

TO THE PRODUCER:

As practical fieldmen see it, the theorists who sometimes write editorials, like the theorists who sometimes give college lectures, attain almost to omniscience. Before the editor's desk and the professor's chair the panorama lies spread out so plainly that there appears no reason for descending to take a more detailed look—say, a long field trip.

In your editorial in the August PRODUCER you tell your readers in effect that there is nothing to do about erosion, and nothing to worry about. We seem to have been mistaken. Most of the farm papers are mistaken on the subject, and also, it seems, so are the agricultural colleges; for in the classrooms they incessantly give warning, and in the laboratory they give demonstrations, of its importance. In the meantime they conduct large-scale experiments which are described in an endless series of pamphlets.

Northern Colorado Breeders' Sale

GREELEY, COLORADO
SEPTEMBER 24

70

HERD SIRE PROSPECTS, HEIFERS, RANGE BULLS, COWS, and CALVES by such sires as Painter's Domino 50th, Anxiety Domino, Advance Domino, Prince Domino 7th, Selection Domino, Prince Domino Jr., Home Builder, and Benefactor.

70

An opportunity you cannot afford to miss, and your first chance to pick from a consignment of nine leading Northern Colorado herds. The offering is unique, in that it represents a selection from new, as well as pioneer, herds of national fame.

NINE COLORADO HERDS REPRESENTED

BOHLENDER BROS., LaSalle.....	4 bulls
W. D. CORLEY, Jr., Colorado Springs.....	1 bull, 8 females
F. F. CUYKENDALL & SON, Roggen.....	3 bulls, 3 females
ISAAC T. EARL, Boulder.....	4 bulls, 3 females
HOWARD BROS., Gill.....	1 bull
JOHN E. PAINTER & SONS, Roggen.....	9 bulls, 8 females
A. ROY PEARSON, Livermore.....	7 bulls
FRANK A. PETERSON, Pierce.....	1 bull
H. E. WITWER & SONS, Greeley.....	8 bulls, 7 females

COME TO GREELEY SEPTEMBER 24

SALE TO BE HELD AT STROH'S NEW HEATED PAVILION

For catalog and information, write

STOW L. WITWER, Manager
COLONEL REPERT, Auctioneer

GREELEY, COLORADO
FRED SCHICK, Clerk

But out in the field we get another angle. If the land supports today, as old-timers universally affirm, about two cows where it formerly supported a dozen, then it seems just possible that something is wrong—an impoverishment of the soil by which something valuable is removed, some wastage by gully-cutting, some exhaustion of the plants themselves, or some undesirable and avoidable run-off of water. Now, those great floods which you mention as closing the drought—had the thought of a connection occurred to you, an inevitable connection? Had you discovered that floods follow denudation as naturally as the night the day?

Incidentally, the fieldmen have a special interest in those floods you mentioned. If on any given range, which was 75 per cent dead, those floods produced the best grass in years—well, then that is *news*!

Some of the men in our outfit know ranching from a good deal of experience, and some are engineers, some ecologists and scientists of other kinds. And we have also some scholars who give their studies to the longer questions of civilized man's influence upon his environment, and of man's use and misuse of the land. And this is, in effect, a study by itself; for the rancher, the miner, the farmer, and the rest of us are but bubbles on the long stream of the nation's history.

Your comment ends by implying that, while we are in the field building check-dams, plugging the gullies, improving the watersheds, building cattle tanks, transplanting grasses and shrubs to critical areas, and revegetating the ranges, you will "keep on doing something useful"—writing editorials like the one in question, perhaps.

I wonder what your readers and stockmen generally think about the usefulness of erosion control. In dealing with ranchmen scattered over 8,500,000 acres of Arizona and New Mexico, we have kept the tally. It shows that out of every 100 men thus far approached, 100 have signed the Co-operator's Agreement.

Writing editorials—some editorials—is also useful work, and we believe in it. We wish you well, and that is the reason we say: "Brother, you skidded badly in that last one!"

ROSS CALVIN, PH. D.,
Soil Conservation Service.

WESTERN CATTLE MARKETINGS

SHIPMENTS OF CATTLE AND CALVES FROM THE seventeen western states during the five months August to December, 1935, will be only about half as large as the total shipments from those states during the corresponding months of 1934, according to a report recently issued by the Department of Agriculture. The 1935 movement, however, will not be much different from that of 1933 and 1932. The shipments, it is estimated, will amount to about 4,000,000 head. In 1934 commercial shipments during this period amounted to over 5,000,000 head, and during that year shipments of government-purchased cattle were 4,974,000 head.

Marketings of sheep and lambs from the thirteen western sheep states during the five months August to December, 1935, it is estimated, will probably be 20 per cent smaller than the commercial marketings during the corresponding months of 1934.

"I think THE PRODUCER is the best live-stock journal published, and that every person connected with live stock should read it."—JOE LUSK, Eddy County, N. M.

Intermountain Live Stock Marketing Association

Stock Yards Station, Denver, Colorado

A Co-operative Sales Agency Represented
on Twenty-six Leading Markets

CATTLE.....	(F. E. (Bud) Hanks A. P. (Al) Cooper A. J. (Tony) Blatter
SHEEP.....	Frank E. Randall
HOGS.....	Fred Miller

Offers Efficient Sales Service in
CATTLE, HOGS, AND SHEEP
At a Minimum Handling Charge

MEMBER OF NATIONAL LIVE STOCK
MARKETING ASSOCIATION

Feeder Season Looks Promising for Everybody

WITH an abundance of feed crops in prospect throughout the Corn Belt, and with live-stock prices nearing parity, coming months look favorable for all branches of the industry.

Movement of lambs and cattle have already started from the range. This movement is most satisfactory when conducted through co-operative channels.

National Live Stock Marketing Association

160 NORTH LA SALLE STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

THE AAA AMENDMENTS

BELOW WE PUBLISH AN OUTLINE OF THE AMENDMENTS to the Agricultural Adjustment Act and related legislation, as set forth in a recent release from the Department of Agriculture:

"Broadly speaking, the act of August 24, 1935, has two purposes: I. To insure the constitutionality of the Agricultural Adjustment Act in the light of Supreme Court decisions. II. To strengthen, clarify, and correct the legislation authorizing the farm program in the light of the experience gained since its inception."

I. Constitutionality

"To insure the constitutionality of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, three things are done: (1) The authority of the Secretary of Agriculture is defined and limited in great detail, so that it shall be unmistakable that Congress is not delegating to an administrative officer powers vested only in the legislative branch of the government. (2) The operation of this act is rigidly limited to interstate commerce, and the interstate commerce clause is redefined to bring it in line with language previously used by the Supreme Court in decisions on this question. At the same time, definite provision is made for co-operation of the federal government and the state governments where this is advisable to make a program effective. (3) All previous and existing taxes, benefit payments, and contracts, instituted prior to the adoption of the amendments, are legalized and ratified by Congress."

II. Strengthening and Clarifying the Act

"Changes made in the act in order to strengthen, clarify, and correct the farm program may be grouped under nine headings:

"1. The parity price or fair exchange value of farm products is modified somewhat by adding mortgage interest rates and tax rates as factors in computing this price.

"2. In connection with basic commodities, payments are authorized for other purposes than rental or benefit payments, namely for: (a) removal of surpluses; (b) expanding domestic or foreign markets; (c) production under a domestic allotment.

"3. Tax rates and tax procedure are spelled out in greater detail, with three objects: (a) insuring flexibility, so that rates may be adjusted to fit market conditions; (b) smoother operation; (c) specifying the procedure for refund and recovery of taxes.

"4. The ever-normal granary plan for storage of certain crops on the farm, as insurance against shortages and violent price swings, is incorporated in the farm program.

"5. Provision is made for control of competing imports when they jeopardize the success of a program.

"6. The procedure for marketing agreements is spelled out in great detail, to clarify and strengthen this method. Notable under this head are: (a) change from 'licenses' to 'orders,' as the means for enforcing marketing agreements among handlers; (b) provision for putting orders into effect without consent of a majority of handlers under certain carefully defined circumstances; (c) legal safeguards for handlers in the form of petition and court review; (d) authority to examine books and records of handlers under certain circumstances.

"7. Changes are made in certain provisions for specific commodities: (a) cotton—amendments to the Bankhead Act and to provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act dealing with cotton option contracts and the cotton pool; (b) tobacco—amendments to Kerr-Smith Act; (c) barley—tax rate specified; (d) sugar beets and sugar cane—adjustments in taxes and payments; (e) rye—tax imposed and rate specified.

"8. In the provisions for protection of the consumer's interest, it is specified that nothing in the act shall be interpreted as authorizing maintenance of prices above parity levels.

"9. Miscellaneous provisions in the amendments cover the following points: (a) encouragement of producer co-operatives; (b) appropriation of funds for elimination of diseased cattle; (c) organization of the hog cholera serum industry under a marketing agreement; (d) appropriation of funds to carry out existing options for purchase of submarginal lands; (e) appropriation of 30 per cent of the annual receipts from customs duties, to stimulate agricultural exports and domestic consumption, and to finance production adjustments."

RENTAL AND BENEFIT PAYMENTS

ATOTAL OF \$807,686,134.47 IS REPORTED BY THE Agricultural Adjustment Administration to have been expended during the 1935 fiscal year. The expenditures include \$563,438,812.77 in rental and benefit payments to farmers under adjustment contracts in five commodity programs; \$12,591,001.49 for removal and conservation of surplus agricultural commodities; \$148,520,819.96 for drought-relief, food-conservation, and disease-eradication activities; \$13,704,070 in connection with trust-fund operations; \$38,583,642.13 for administrative expenses; \$30,292,782.89 for refunds of taxes; and \$737,005 for disbursement expense.

Rental and benefits during the fiscal period reported were divided among commodities as follows: cotton, \$116,195,930.56; wheat, \$98,223,175.49; tobacco, \$28,767,914.02; corn and hogs, \$302,407,647.62; and sugar, \$17,844,145.08.

Removal-of-surplus operations, involving total expenditures of \$12,591,001.49, were divided as follows: hogs, \$1,426,470.50; wheat, \$1,087,744.93; dairy products, \$9,037,240.89; sugar, \$365,536.44; and peanuts, \$674,008.73.

Drought-relief, food-conservation, and disease-eradication operations for cattle cost \$123,026,964.78, of which \$11,486,937.36 was spent in connection with disease eradication, and \$111,540,027.42 in the purchase of drought cattle. Other expenditures under this heading were \$7,709,879.60 for drought sheep and goats, \$17,780,661.20 in the conservation of adapted seeds in the drought area, and \$3,314.38 for the feed- and forage-conservation program.

"I certainly am pleased with the way you champion the causes of the producers in your official organ of the national association."—HARRY HARDER, Whitman County, Wash.

OUR TRAFFIC PROBLEMS

MOTOR-CARRIER ACT, 1935

ON AUGUST 9, CONGRESS PASSED THE MOTOR-CARRIER Act of 1935. Although "motor vehicles used exclusively in the carrying of live stock . . . or agricultural commodities" are exempted from the provisions of the act, except as to those relative to "qualifications and maximum hours of service of employees and safety of operation or standards of equipment," stockmen will be interested in the following digest of the new law:

Declaration of Policy

"Section 202.—(a) It is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress to regulate transportation by motor carriers in such manner as to recognize and preserve the inherent advantages of, and foster sound economic conditions in, such transportation and among such carriers in the public interest; promote adequate, economical, and efficient service by motor carriers, and reasonable charges therefor, without unjust discriminations, undue preference or advantages, and unfair or destructive competitive practices; improve the relations between, and co-ordinate transportation by, and regulation of, motor carriers and other carriers; develop and preserve a highway transportation system properly adapted to the needs of the commerce of the United States and of the national defense; and co-operate with the several states and the duly authorized officials thereof, and with any organization of motor carriers, in the administration and enforcement of this part. (b) The provisions of this part apply to the transportation of passengers or property by motor carriers engaged in interstate or foreign commerce. . . . (c) Nothing in this part shall be construed to affect the powers of taxation of the several states or to authorize a motor carrier to do an intrastate business on the highways of any state, or to interfere with the exclusive exercise by each state of the power of regulation of intrastate commerce by motor carriers on the highways thereof."

Definitions

Section 203 (a) defines the various names, terms, and phrases of the act:

"(10) The term 'interstate commerce' means commerce between any place in a state and any place in another state, or between places in the same state through another state, whether such commerce moves wholly by motor vehicle or partly by motor vehicle and partly by rail, express, or water. (14) The term 'common carrier by motor vehicle' means any person who or which undertakes . . . to transport passengers or property . . . for the general public in interstate or foreign commerce by motor vehicle for compensation, whether over regular or irregular routes, including such motor-vehicle operations of carriers by rail or water, and of express or forwarding companies. . . . (15) The term 'contract carrier by motor vehicle' means any person, not included under paragraph 14 of this section, who or which, under special and individual contracts or agreements, and whether directly or by a lease or any other arrangement, transports passengers or property in interstate or foreign commerce by motor vehicle for compensation. (17) The term 'private carrier of property by motor vehicle' means any person not included in the terms 'common carrier by motor vehicle' or 'contract carrier by motor vehicle,' who or which transports in interstate or foreign commerce by motor vehicle property of which such person is the owner, lessee, or bailee, when such transportation is for the purpose of sale, lease, rent, or bailment, or in furtherance of any commercial enterprise. (18) The term 'broker' means any person . . . not a bona-fide

employee or agent of any such carrier, who or which, as principal or agent, sells or offers for sale any transportation. . . ."

Exemptions

Section 203 (b) provides that:

"Nothing in this part, except the provisions of Section 204 relative to qualifications and maximum hours of service of employees and safety of operation or standards of equipment, shall be construed to include . . . (4a) vehicles controlled and operated by any farmer and used in the transportation of his agricultural commodities and products thereof, or in the transportation of supplies to his farm; (4b) motor vehicles controlled and operated by a co-operative association, as defined in the Agricultural Marketing Act; . . . or (6) motor vehicles used exclusively in the carrying of live stock, fish (including shell fish), or agricultural commodities (not including the manufactured products thereof). . . ."

Powers of Commission

Section 204 (a) clothes the commission with general powers as follows:

"(1) To regulate common carriers, . . . establish reasonable requirements with respect to continuous and adequate service, transportation of baggage and express, uniform systems of accounts, . . . qualifications, and maximum hours of service of employees, and safety of operation and equipment; (2) to regulate contract carriers, . . . establish reasonable requirements with respect to . . . accounts, . . . qualifications, and maximum hours of service of employees, and safety of operation and equipment; (3) to establish for private carriers of property by motor vehicle, if need therefor is found, reasonable requirements to promote safety of operation, and to that end prescribe qualifications and maximum hours of service of employees, and standards of equipment."

Section 204 (d) provides that:

"Upon complaint in writing to the commission by any person, state board, organization, or body politic, or upon its own initiative without complaint, the commission may investigate whether any motor carrier or broker has failed to comply with any provision of this part, or with any requirement established pursuant thereto. . . ."

General

Sections 205 to 215 deal with hearings and decisions, certificates of convenience and necessity, dual operation, brokerage licenses, mergers, issuance of securities, and bonds for the protection of the public.

Rates of Common Carriers

Section 216 provides as follows:

"(a) It shall be the duty of every common carrier of passengers by motor vehicle to establish reasonable through routes with other such common carriers, and to provide safe and adequate service, . . . just and reasonable individual and joint rates, . . . regulations, and practices. . . . (b) It shall be the duty of every common carrier of property by motor vehicle to provide safe and adequate service, equipment, and facilities for the transportation of property, . . . just and reasonable rates, . . . regulations, and practices. . . . (c) Common carriers of property by motor vehicle may establish reasonable through routes and joint rates, charges, and classifi-

cations with other such carriers, or with common carriers by railroad and/or express and/or water. . . . (d) It shall be unlawful for any common carrier by motor vehicle, engaged in interstate or foreign commerce, to make, give, or cause any undue or unreasonable preference or advantage. . . . (e) Any person . . . may make complaint in writing to the commission that any such rate . . . is in violation of this section or Section 217. . . . The commission shall . . . establish . . . rates. . . . Provided, however, that nothing in this part shall empower the commission to prescribe, or in any manner regulate, the rate, fare, or charge for intrastate transportation, or for any service connected therewith, for the purpose of removing discrimination against interstate commerce, or for any other purpose whatever."

Tariffs

Section 217 provides for the filing of tariffs by common carriers, prohibits discrimination, and permits change in rates only on thirty days' notice. Section 218 requires that contract carriers file schedules, and allows the commission to prescribe minimum charges. Under this section, no advantage or undue preference will be permitted in competition with any common carrier by motor vehicles which may be found by the commission to be undue or inconsistent with the public interest and the policy declared in Section 202 (a).

Miscellaneous

Sections 219 to 224 cover the matters of bills of lading, reports, service of process, unlawful operation, collection of rates, and identification of carriers.

Regulation of Sizes and Weights of Motor Vehicles

The authority given by Section 225 is as follows:

"The commission is hereby authorized to investigate and report on the need for federal regulation of the sizes and weight of motor vehicles, and of the qualifications and maximum hours of service of employees of all motor carriers and private carriers of property by motor vehicle; in such investigation the commission shall avail itself of the assistance of all departments or bureaus of the government, and of any organization of motor carriers having special knowledge of any such matter."

Time Effective

Section 227 makes the act effective October 1, 1935. The commission may not postpone the taking effect of any provision beyond April 1, 1936.

NATIONWIDE TRUCKING SERVICE

A NATIONWIDE CO-ORDINATED MOTOR-TRANSPORT organization, centering around Chicago, is planned by the firm of Lehmann Brothers. The enterprise, to be known as the Keeshin Transcontinental Freight Lines, will be built around the Keeshin Motor Express Company, of Chicago.

CORRECTION

UNDER OUR "TRAFFIC" DEPARTMENT IN THE August issue of THE PRODUCER, on page 19 at the bottom of the page, we stated that the recent report of Federal Co-ordinator Eastman "pointed out that the railroads can effect savings of not less than \$750,000,000 per annum." This should have read "\$750,000."

World Wheat Crop

The Institute of Agriculture at Rome estimates the world's wheat crop this year at 1,580,000,000 bushels, or 50,000,000 bushels more than the yield in 1934.

THE MARKETS

LIVE-STOCK MARKET IN AUGUST

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., September 3, 1935.

MAKE A BET ON WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN ANY branch of the market on the next session, and nine times out of ten you will lose. Present conditions confound all trade philosophy. High-level markets are always erratic, and always will be, unless the price-fixing cult gets an inning—an improbable prospect. Violent price-swings are aggravating, but inevitable, when killers are resorting to every trick in their kit to save money. At intervals, buyers receive orders to save money, but to get numbers; at other stages their instructions are to break prices, or let the stuff lie in the pens. J. Ogden Armour, on the witness stand, was asked what the market required. His response was "variety," and he said a mouthful; but he might have specified an evenly balanced supply. Nobody can prophesy what the market will need on the next session, demand switching in unaccountable fashion.

Cattle Trade Erratic

One day develops clamor for weight; the next, heft is ignored. Trash has innings, and, as a rule, sells on a more stable basis than quality. Killers frequently go short of cooler requirements in efforts to depress prices; failing, they resort to buying rushes. Markets blow cold and hot on the same session. August developed a notoriously erratic trade, and there is nothing on the horizon to suggest stability—a desirable, but under present conditions impossible, situation. The country has acquired a habit of jockeying with killers by holding back on breaks, then loading in response to bulges. As a result, cattle prices have wobbled 50 cents to \$1 a cwt. in a single week; hogs, 50 to 75 cents; and lambs, 50 to 60 cents.

Top and Bottom Grades Hold Up

August developed several sharp breaks in cattle prices. Late in the month heavy steers forged to the front, reaching \$12.85 at Chicago, and discrediting Packingtown prophecy that the top would not go above \$12 the rest of the season, as the product could not be sold on a higher basis. The last week of the month developed a scramble for bullocks with sufficient weight, condition, and quality to elicit bids in the \$12 to \$12.75 range. On the other hand, they broke middle grades 75 cents to \$1, establishing a reasonable spread, as big steers had been out of line and relatively low. This break involved all western cattle except stockers and feeders, for which country replacement maintained a broad outlet. Heavy yearlings—1,050 pounds up—were not damaged, but the rank and file of light yearlings got a bump. Down in the lower-price bracket, between stocker demand and an insistent call for cheap beef, the market held on a stable course, with not enough to go around much of the time. Gathering "yellow hammers" down in the Cotton Belt waned when speculators had combed the country for everything wearing a hair, depriving killers of a supply of low-cost, inferior beef that had been a veritable bonanza previously.

Feeders Buy Freely

Stocker buyers took everything killers passed up, which means that they bagged few fleshy or two-way steers adapted

to a short term on corn, paying \$8 to \$8.75 for the bulk of these purchases, with a few up to \$9. Switching to light cattle, they paid \$8 to \$8.75 for choice calves and yearlings, incidentally taking out droves of trash, including little Holstein steers, as low as \$4.50. They bought freely in the \$7 and \$8 range early in the month, and later switched to light cattle selling from \$7 down. In-and-out feeders who were out last year during the bargain sale of that period played a return engagement, sounding the "get cattle" slogan. At interior sales dangerously high prices were paid by feeders, speculators responsible for these auction events bagging big profits.

Low-Cost Steers in Strong Demand

Cattle trade has been excessively erratic in the \$10.50 to \$11.75 range, as buyers were always on a still-hunt for steers selling from \$10 down, and were willing to spring this limit 25 cents at any time. They got little beef out of the northwestern delegation, which ran largely to stockers and dry cows, the latter advertising a short calf crop. Kansas grassers got good action by virtue of their price and popular demand for low-cost beef.

Heavy Steer Supply Light

Chicago bagged, on certain occasions, a crop of corn-fed steers, cut loose by tired owners who had endeavored to nurse the market back to the high May level. Elsewhere such beef was scarce, but eastern dressed-beef markets were fickle, and urgent demand for the product of \$12 cattle restricted. At intervals heavy steers—1,200 pounds up—almost passed out of the picture, an occasional drove of corn-feds, the "6666" Texas contribution, and the Holly "sugar" cattle comprising the bulk of supply. The great bulk of the corn-feds was yearlings weighing 850 to 1,050 pounds.

Liquidation of Dairy Trash Retarded

Dry cows from the Northwest, selling anywhere from \$5 to \$6, furnished killers with a grist of cheap beef that they needed in the worst way. Low-grade cows, selling from \$3 to \$4.50, always got action, despite generous receipts of tuberculosis and Bang's disease reactors. Extension of government money payments to the first half of 1936 will probably retard liquidation of dairy trash, affording more time to complete the eradication program, although the major part of the continental area, with the exception of New York, California, and eastern South Dakota, is expected to be "clean" by January 1.

Heifers and Vealers Rule High

Heifers always had a specialty market, whether selling at \$5 or \$11.50. On the hooks, such carcasses cost more than steers of the same weight and price. This was pronounced in the case of \$11 to \$11.50 heifers, which got into the scarcity category. Veals advanced to a \$10 to \$10.50 basis in sympathy with lambs.

Hog Trade Irregular

Hog trade was somewhat pyrotechnic, but fully as erratic as cattle. The top went to \$12.20, then broke to \$11.65, reacting subsequently to \$11.85; but the major upturn was in heavy hogs—250 pounds up—coincident with practical disappearance of the old crop. Late in August they were on an \$11 to \$11.75 basis, packing sows keeping barrows company, by earning anywhere from \$9.50 to \$10.35. On the other hand, underweights slipped, while big hogs were working to the highest level of the season, considering weight. At the end of the month, top hogs were 40 cents below the high spot, and heavies at the zenith of the rise. Demand for big hogs was due to scarcity, and a shortage of heavy "bellies." Stocks

of cured meats and lard diminished steadily to the lowest tonnage in half a century. Fresh pork got into the luxury category, disappearing from the block in many retail establishments.

Deficient Winter Pork Supply Inevitable

Hog receipts carried a large percentage of spring shoats, weighing 140 to 200 pounds, dislodged either by attractive prices or disease, of which many sporadic outbreaks were reported. Farmers under corn-hog contracts, thereby unable to have pig crops last fall, changed farrowing time to January and February, thousands of finished shoats of that vintage selling at \$11.50 to \$12. This means that the spring crop is going to the butcher earlier than usual, insuring a deficient pork supply next winter. Breeding stock went to a premium, and stock pigs were not to be had at \$10 per cwt. August hog supply was the smallest in fifty years, and, but for spring pigs and sows, the platter would have been bare. There is promise of an increase in fall farrowing, compared with last year, but it will be light, as corn-hog contracts reduced fall litters last year almost to the zero point.

Corn Belt Establishing Farm Flocks

Live muttons worked to higher levels, lambs selling at \$9.25 to \$9.50, but dressed trade went stale late in August, enabling killers to take off 50 to 60 cents, most of the fat lambs, native and western, reacting to \$8.50 to \$8.75. Meanwhile, feeders advanced \$1 per cwt. to a parity with fat lambs, for which there is rare, if any, precedent. A buying furore in breeding stock elevated ewes adapted to that purpose to \$5 to \$6.50, two's and three's realizing \$6 to \$6.50. The entire Corn Belt is anxious to establish farm flocks to compensate for depleted swine breeding herds, so that fewer hogs mean more lambs. Fat ewes, furnishing the bulk of mutton supply, sold at \$2.50 to \$3.50 per cwt. Had a few more been available, prices would have been 50 cents to \$1 lower.

Good Prices to Continue

Early in September corn-fed cattle were in strong statistical position; others were on debatable ground. A semi-famine in pork, even with cost of killers around \$13 per cwt., with the tax included, gave that trade a healthy appearance; and, when the western lamb crop is garnered, another rise is considered certain. Consumers are balking at current meat prices, and switching to competitive foods, but current and visible supply of all grades and types of animal foods is so deficient as to justify expectancy of continued high prices.

Live Stock in France

The number of cattle in France in 1934 was 15,704,000 head; of sheep, 9,571,300 head; and of pigs, 7,043,880. In 1933 that country had 15,830,000 cattle, 9,729,900 sheep, and 7,035,850 pigs.



The Gem Spoon Dehorner

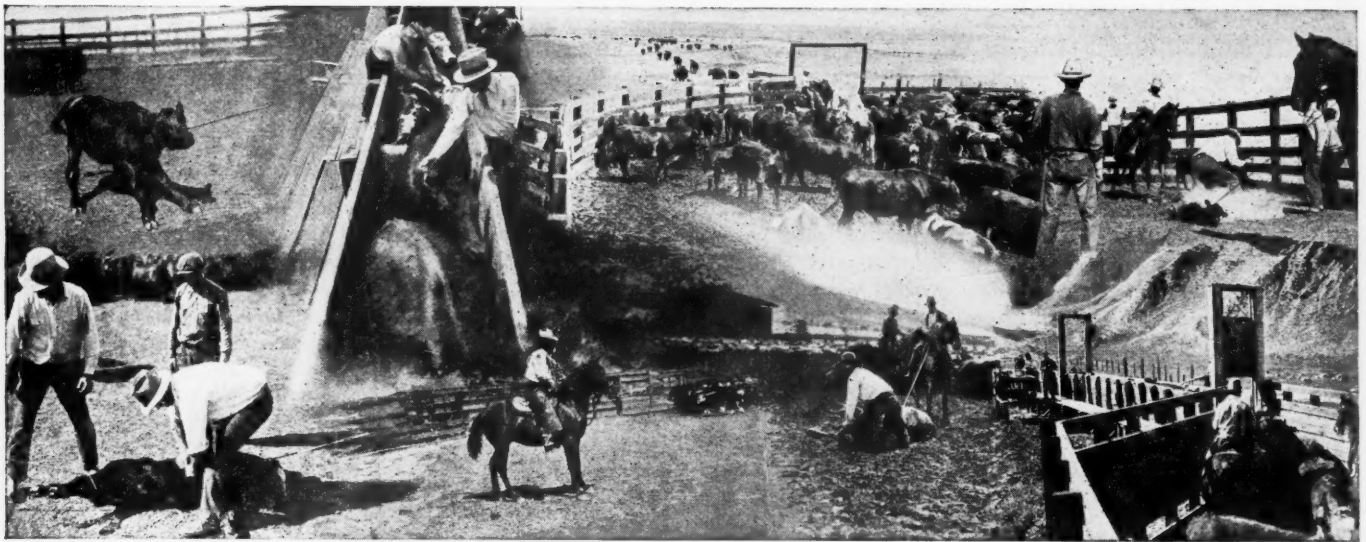
Costs no more than a good pocket-knife. Keen, well-tempered tool steel, expertly shaped for easily lifting out horn button; best for calves up to three months, so head will grow shapely. Earlier dehorning is easiest on calves and operator—means better growth, better prices.

Limited offer: For \$2.75, cash with order, we will send above tool and a half-gallon can of Anchor Brand Dehorning Paint, postpaid in U. S. A. Order before September 30, 1935.

The Antiseptic Products Company

3105 Walnut Street

Denver, Colorado



TEN THOUSAND CATTLEMEN PROVED OUR CLAIM!



IN APRIL 1934 Cutter Laboratories introduced **BLACKLEGOL**... the first product ever to be definitely and unconditionally recommended for the one dose immunization of suckling calves against blackleg! Laboratory and field tests had shown that while in rare instances there might be losses, these would be far more than offset by the saving on the second dose and the second handling of the calves. Thousands of cattlemen, knowing our record of thirty-eight years as the leader in the field of blackleg immunization, took our recommendation and vaccinated with one dose of Blacklegol (Blackleg Antigen).*

OVER A MILLION CALVES have been vaccinated with Blacklegol; and of the thousands of ranchers who used it, only four reported losses. None of the reports were received soon enough after death to make a confirming laboratory diagnosis possible, and there are several diseases which simulate blackleg. But just for the argument let us say that all actually died from blackleg... With the odds 250,000 to 1, wouldn't you say that the gamble had at last been taken out of one dose immunization?

If your association, dealer or veterinarian cannot supply you with Cutter Products write direct for quantity prices.

*Thousands of stockmen are still using Cutter's Aggrassin, or Bacterin, but to these thousands, as well as to other stockmen using less potent products, we ask: "Why take ANY chance when **BLACKLEGOL** costs so little if any more?"

CUTTER *Laboratories*
Established 1897 **BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA**
or 176 West Adams Street, Chicago

Branch Offices and Depot Stocks: Los Angeles, Seattle, Denver
Ft. Worth, San Antonio, El Paso, New Orleans, Regina, Calgary



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LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

APPENDED ARE TABLES SHOWING RECEIPTS, shipments, and federally inspected slaughter of live stock at sixty-two markets for the month of July, 1935, as compared with July, 1934, and for seven months ending July, 1935 and 1934:

RECEIPTS

	July		Seven Months Ending July	
	1935	1934	1935	1934
Cattle*	1,080,256	2,128,968†	7,360,210†	8,661,354
Calves	522,400	855,825†	3,650,356†	4,096,177
Hogs	1,336,214	2,519,407	11,704,637	20,394,346
Sheep	2,368,068	2,152,081	13,792,819	12,760,013

TOTAL SHIPMENTS†

	July		Seven Months Ending July	
	1935	1934	1935	1934
Cattle*	390,688	1,000,244	2,278,482	3,286,059
Calves	147,437	231,097	1,121,323	1,113,745
Hogs	419,990	731,548	3,640,925	5,964,534
Sheep	1,169,489	1,155,286	6,231,094	5,888,404

STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS

	July		Seven Months Ending July	
	1935	1934	1935	1934
Cattle*	121,686	438,647	1,115,313	1,170,193
Calves	22,882	41,637	217,930	183,646
Hogs	23,817	45,730	194,900	270,924
Sheep	109,105	189,643	786,911	864,810

SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

	July		Seven Months Ending July	
	1935	1934	1935	1934
Cattle*	744,900	808,837	4,983,491	5,588,146
Calves	464,091	525,309	3,256,016	3,634,353
Hogs	1,712,311	3,324,440	15,505,091	26,580,295
Sheep	1,545,804	1,294,237	9,889,702	8,769,939

*Exclusive of calves.

†Including stockers and feeders.

‡Includes cattle and calves purchased for Federal Surplus Relief Corporation.

HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELOW IS A SUMMARY OF STORAGE HOLDINGS of frozen and cured meats, lard, poultry, creamery butter, and eggs on August 1, 1935, as compared with August 1, 1934, and average holdings on that date for the past five years (in pounds except as otherwise noted):

Commodity	Aug. 1, 1935	Aug. 1, 1934	Five-Year Average
Frozen beef	33,391,000	40,363,000	30,870,000
Cured beef*	16,272,000	21,182,000	16,277,000
Lamb and mutton	2,126,000	1,518,000	2,098,000
Frozen pork	83,430,000	181,254,000	181,307,000
Dry salt pork*	61,188,000	91,617,000	126,346,000
Pickled pork*	225,174,000	370,695,000	383,986,000
Miscellaneous	49,595,000	78,266,000	72,803,000
Total meats	471,176,000	784,895,000	813,687,000
Lard	68,815,000	209,497,000	158,131,000
Frozen poultry	41,177,000	44,904,000	40,259,000
Creamery butter	149,464,000†	108,748,000	126,022,000
Eggs (case equiv.)	11,261,000	12,434,000	12,316,000

* Cured or in process of cure.

† Does not include butter held by Agricultural Adjustment Administration or Federal Surplus Relief Corporation.

MARKET GOSSIP

J. E. P.

SPECULATION CONCERNING MEAT SUPPLIES IN the immediate future is rife; current deficiency is not to be disputed. Flamboyant advertisement of profit accruing to growers at the moment is as ill-timed as it is absurd, as relatively few feeders are in a position to take advantage of what has been dubbed "profitless prosperity." Advancing live-stock prices afford scant consolation to the man who has little or nothing to sell at the moment, and who, in all probability, will be under the necessity of taking less money when he gets into action. The country is going into a period of expanding beef production, which will be in evidence the moment new corn is available. Pork production cannot be increased overnight, as breeding-stock is scarce, but bigger pig crops are inevitable within two years, as the whole country is enthusiastic over pork production, which is inevitably boomed by a period of high prices. Restriction of forest-reserve facilities may curtail western lamb production, but the farmer is getting into that game rapidly. There is no evident tendency to establish beef breeding herds on Corn Belt pastures, as the production cycle is long, and few farmers are in position to embark in such enterprise; but in certain localities cows are being installed for the purpose of growing yearlings—an operation that is proving profitable in competent hands.

Hog-Production Becoming Popular

Everywhere, from New England to California, pork production is a popular theme. On the Pacific coast, growing meat is suggested as an alternative to going as far east as the Missouri River to replenish pork supply, and down in

SECOND ANNUAL SALE

BELLE CURTICE WRIGHT

Pines Ranch

Stevensville, Montana

Thursday, September 26, 1935

Selling line-bred Beau Donalds from the original herd, started over fifty years ago by W. H. Curtice, Eminence, Kentucky

48 YEARLING BULLS

This offering includes a number of excellent HERD-BULL prospects. Northwestern range breeders have for years been "repeat buyers" from this herd.

40 FEMALES

20 two-year-old bred heifers. The tops of the herd are included. 20 selected breeding cows, a number of which have calves at foot.

Pines Ranch will carry only 100 breeding cows, and is now fully stocked. Only proved breeding cows are offered in annual sales. Buyers are offered an opportunity to secure at this sale a blood line that has been in demand for many years.

Beau Donald and Beau Perfections have been making Hereford history for fifty years. Many Grand Champions have been sired in this herd.

CATALOG on REQUEST

Address

MRS. BELLE CURTICE WRIGHT
STEVENSVILLE, MONTANA

the "deep South" an unanswerable argument is: "Why buy taxed meat of the northern farmer when we can raise our own?" A demoralized cotton trade promises to put the entire belt into diversified farming, in which cattle, hogs, sheep, and poultry will all play a part. Governor Talmage, of Georgia, is expounding this doctrine to the extent of producing wheat and corn. The Cotton Belt has been absorbing purebred hogs at northern points, and it is a cinch bet that they will not go into the meat-barrel. One swine authority predicts that the center of hog production, working westward for half a century, will go into reverse, and that such decadent markets as Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, and Buffalo will again take a place on the map. It is an open secret that "recalcitrants," as Professor Tugwell dubs non-signers of the corn-hog plan, will expand breeding operations. Another open secret is that only 69 per cent of those voting on the proposition last fall were on the affirmative side, and that those who did not vote will also grow more hogs. Eastern farmers buying packing-house meat for years, getting out of the practice of butchering, are reverting. Hog production control may prove to be an iridescent dream.

Clean-up of Production-Control "Cheaters" Difficult

"Cheaters" under the control plan are apparently getting away with it, as are also an army of meat bootleggers, of whose illicit operations packers are complaining audibly, especially the small fry, who have been hit hardest. "Cheaters" comprise those who made false returns concerning their "base" at the expense of those who practiced honesty in their dealings with the government. Realizing inability to straighten out this mess, government agents resorted to horizontal reductions in percentages, incidentally penalizing probity. Possibly no other solution was available, but the result was to discredit the whole plan, adding to the roll of "recalcitrants" who refused to go along. A few cheaters have been subjected to legal proceedings, but too many are involved, and local political influence is too strong, to warrant a clean-up. In one instance an influential Iowa man, who received the largest corn-hog bounty check on the list, was detected cheating to the extent of \$3,800—at least that was the fine imposed—but it is doubtful if this penalty would have been inflicted had he decided to go along with

the plan, instead of joining the recalcitrant ranks—an obvious indiscreet act on his part.

No Advantages Seen in Processing Tax

Cattle-feeders are congratulating themselves that they evaded processing-tax meshes. In view of recent and current prices of their product, they would, in all probability, have been heavily assessed, with no assurance as to where the money would have gone—probably into a pot from which deficient hog-tax money would have been extracted. Ask ten hog growers the question as to who has paid the processing tax, and eight will reply that it was deducted from the value of their property at sale time. Under present conditions they are defenseless, as recovery of money lost on the sale of hogs is possible only through the agency of bounty checks. Current pork scarcity will probably change the entire corn-hog plan, possibly to the extent of lifting restrictions on pork production, and even stimulating breeding operations until present semi-famine conditions have been relieved. Pork is reputed to be the "poor man's meat," consumption per capita exceeding that of beef, lamb, and veal combined, so that reducing volume 50 per cent, by a combination of drought and artificial control, is largely responsible for anti-meat agitation in consumer circles.

Packers Not Responsible for Anti-Meat Agitation

Consumer agitation, although somewhat subdued, still continues, both in active and latent form, as the latest outbreak in the Detroit area demonstrates. The ghosts of 6,000,000 destroyed pigs are constantly invoked by agitators, communistic or otherwise, metropolitan journals attributing the pork famine to that excursion in the field of economics known as the economics of scarcity. The AAA people insist that the drought was solely responsible, ignoring pigs destroyed in 1934 to reduce individual holdings to contract requirements; also repression of fall farrowing, which has had a potent influence in creating existing meat scarcity. Intimation from Washington that packers are behind the agitation is absurd, as they are sufferers in a major sense, and, whatever their past sins of omission and commission may have been, none of them has ever been guilty of such idiocy as fouling his own nest by restricting sales volume, which is the objective of the anti-meat agitators. Until a normal pork supply has been developed, anti-meat agitation will continue.

Difficulties Will Follow Processing-Tax Decision

Until well along in October, when the Supreme Court is expected to hand down a decision concerning the validity of the processing tax, that matter will remain *in statu quo*. Meanwhile tax money is accumulating in escrow, and, should the decision be adverse to the AAA, the sahibs of that bureau will face the task of unscrambling a platter of eggs. Assuming that the decision is favorable to the AAA, that arm of the government is likely to find itself in possession of numerous small packing plants, the owners of which will be unable to pay accumulated taxes. In theory, the hog tax was to be collected from the packer, who was to pass it on to the ultimate consumer; but, in practice, the thing did not work out that way, as, in fierce competition to get trade, many small packers indulged in cut-throat pricing, which prevented them from collecting the tax at the final stage of distribution. The plan neglected to take the ultimate consumer into the reckoning, and, when the latter was told his meat had been taxed, he switched to competitive foods, resulting in the abortive effort to tax beef as a device for relieving pork of the handicap.

REGISTERED HEREFORD CATTLE

Choicest blood-lines; outstanding individuals; raised under actual range conditions

T. E. MITCHELL & SON
Tequesquite Ranch
ALBERT, NEW MEXICO

Country on Cattle- and Lamb-Buying Spree

Rarely has the trade witnessed such a scramble for replacement cattle and lambs. At the markets, automobile parking space has been congested with conveyances of prospective and actual buyers, totting bundles of cash, and more interested in filling needs than in cost. Anything wearing a hide, susceptible of taking on weight, has gone over the scales with alacrity, at prices so much higher than a year ago as to suggest trouble in the finality of the operation, even if current prices on the fat side of the market hold up. Silage feeders have absorbed little Holstein steers, costing \$4.50 to \$5 per cwt., to consume canning-factory waste, by the thousand. Common red cattle are selling at \$5 to \$5.25, and at the other end of the range, western calves and yearlings with quality are going to the country at \$8 to \$8.75, two-way feeding steers, eligible to killer competition, selling at \$8.75 to \$9. A large percentage of the Chicago output cost anywhere from \$7 to \$8 per cwt., with little haggling over prices. "Get cattle" is the country slogan, and probably will continue to be until gathering in the western pasture region ends for the season. Lambs at \$8.25 to \$8.75 are prize packages at Chicago, which is less than they can be acquired at in the Northwest, when running cost is reckoned with. The spread between fat and feeder prices, both in bovine and ovine stock, is narrow enough to look dangerous.

Crossroad Sale-Yards Doing Rushing Business

Speculators have been running all over the country in quest of cattle and lambs, and, in many instances, growers have listened to their blandishments to their regret. Their bear talk is ingenious, if deceptive, and, as they operate below the market basis, they have picked up a barrel of money. Every crossroad advertises weekly stock-cattle sales, which invariably attract crowds. Some of the cattle knocked down in these rings are purchased by speculators at the central markets; others are forwarded direct from the hinterland, changing hands several times before they reach the feed-lot. One extensive sale-yard near Chicago started several years ago as a one-day auction, developing this season into a continuous performance, in charge of high-powered salesmen, and employing solicitors who ride the adjacent country proclaiming the merit and cheapness of the wares offered. When the country goes on a buying spree, intrinsic values, quality, and even common-sense are ignored. Interior bankers, anxious to put idle funds to work, are furnishing barrels of money, to the extent of the full purchase price. This year the in-and-out feeder is in the game with both feet, to the dismay of regulars, who realize that they are now getting competition on the buying side and may also get it at the final stage of the operation.

Sheep-Breeding Receiving Attention

Curtailed hog production has diverted farmer attention to breeding sheep, solid-mouthed western ewes selling in the auction ring at \$4.50 to \$5 a head. If enthusiasm over wool and mutton is maintained, the meat-curtailment advocates may find it necessary to plow under at least part of a crop of lambs. Stock pigs, a drug on the market last year at \$2 per cwt., are now scarce at \$10, as the spring pig crop was short, and the government plan makes feeding purchased pigs possible. If the Corn Belt gets into the business of raising lambs on an extensive scale, western commercial breeders will have opportunity to realize that the corn-hog curtailment program is detrimental to their interests, as sheep are supplanting hogs, and land taken out of corn can be planted to soy beans, Sudan grass, and other sheep feed.

A time may come when native lambs will dominate prices, and, unless consumption of the product can be stimulated, demoralization will be inevitable. Another result of the corn-hog plan is stimulation of poultry production, this year's crop of geese, turkeys, ducks, and chickens promising to be a record-breaker. Obviously, a control plan embracing all animals and foods would be impossible.

Most States Will Be Accredited January 1

Rapid progress is being made with the bovine tuberculosis-eradication campaign inaugurated by H. R. Smith in 1917. Wyoming is the twenty-fifth state to get a gold star, and by January 1 next it is probable that of the western states only California, Texas, and South Dakota will not figure on the accredited list. The Jones-Connally Act has been extended to June 30, 1936, which means that federal money will be available up to that time. The bad spots on the map, so far as bovine tuberculosis is concerned, are California, New York, South Dakota, New Jersey, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. Smith estimates that by January 1, 1936, only ten states will not be on the accredited list, New York and California being the most seriously affected. Government money is being divided between tuberculosis and Bang's disease, the latter being a far more serious problem than tuberculosis in some areas. Tuberculosis never did cut much figure west of the Missouri River, except in a few dairy herds. Iowa will, in January next, subject feeding steers from non-accredited areas to the tuberculin test before admission.

Corn Belt Has Abundant Feed

Low temperatures late in August justify concern over the maturing corn crop, much of which will be seriously damaged by a possible September frost. A considerable area is still two weeks late, so that a mid-September killing frost would create a mass of soft feed that could be salvaged only by the agency of cattle and lambs. Minus frost, corn will be a normal crop, although in Missouri River territory 25 per cent deterioration is reported by reason of dry weather. Old corn has practically disappeared, necessitating feeding the new crop the moment snapping is possible; but enormous

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crops of soy beans, hay, and other roughage must be reckoned with in estimating the winter live-stock carrying capacity of the Corn Belt. East of the Mississippi River a bumper corn crop is assured, if frost holds off, as commercial fertilizer was applied in unprecedented quantities—a practice that will become general as time works along, nullifying restricted acreage. So heavy is the soy-bean crop that killers will resume their plaint of yellow beef the moment any considerable quantity has been fed, although they will be less exacting this season, as it means revival of tonnage.

Sanitary Convention Postponed until Next Congress

Adjournment of Congress definitely postpones admission of Argentine meat until the next session of that body, but the attitude of the Department of State has not changed in the least. The treaty is on a deferred "must" list, and the moment the Senate gets into action will be pulled out of the Foreign Relations Committee pigeonhole. A novel system of answering protest has been adopted by senators, whose mail has been swelled since the live-stock raising community was apprised of the plan. Instead of responding in detail, the senator addressed incloses what amounts to a form letter prepared by the Department of State, in which the Patagonian ruse is stressed, and necessity for placating Argentina emphasized. Incidentally, a canner cow worth 1½ cents a pound at Buenos Aires costs 3½ at Chicago, which is the principal reason for current heavy imports of Argentine canned beef; also, a 10½-cent steer at Chicago is a 5-cent animal when it reaches a River Plate frigorifico—two facts that must be considered in connection with the threatened invasion of this market, not to speak of the sanitary phase, which Washington experts dismiss by asserting that foot-and-mouth disease no longer exists.

HIDE PRICES STEADY

J. E. P.

HIDE PRICES SHOW LITTLE CHANGE FROM WEEK to week. Packers refuse even fractional concessions, and are occasionally able to put on half a cent. Heavy steer hides are in strong position, and demand for country hides is picking up. Packer hides are moving, somewhat spasmodically, in a range of 10 to 13½ cents, tanners coming into the market at irregular intervals in response to urgent needs. The futures market at New York shows a strong undertone.

Leather and cattle industries have protested against letting contracts for 187,500 pairs of shoes with composition heels and soles for the Civilian Conservation Corps. Bids will be received at the same time on 562,500 pairs of shoes with full leather soles and heels, to determine relative cost. Robert Fechner, director of the corps, replying to charges that his action is in opposition to the administration policy with respect to improving the leather market, states that he intends to reduce cost of shoes, or anything else, to enable him to increase the force. As the government holds a huge bunch of hides, this attitude lacks consistency. The industry wants to see the government hides out of the way, and buying shoes for the CCC would have taken a good chunk of them.

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WHOLESALE MEAT PRICES

WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN DRESSED meats at Chicago on September 3, 1935, compared with August 1, 1935, and August 31, 1934, were as below (per 100 pounds):

FRESH BEEF AND VEAL

	Sept. 3, 1935	Aug. 1, 1935	Aug. 31, 1934
STEER (700 lbs. up):			
Choice	\$17.50-18.50	\$16.50-17.50	\$15.00-16.00
Good	15.00-17.50	14.00-16.50	14.00-15.00
STEER (500 to 700 lbs.):			
Choice	17.00-18.50	16.50-17.50	14.00-15.50
Good	14.00-17.00	13.50-16.50	13.00-14.50
YEARLING STEER:			
Choice	17.00-18.00	16.50-17.50	13.50-14.50
Good	14.00-17.00	13.50-16.50	12.50-13.50
COW:			
Good	10.00-12.00	11.00-12.00	9.50-10.50
VEAL:			
Choice	15.00-16.50	13.00-14.00	12.00-13.00
Good	14.00-15.00	12.00-13.00	11.00-12.00

FRESH LAMB AND MUTTON

LAMB (45 lbs. down):			
Choice	\$16.50-17.50	\$14.00-15.00	\$15.00-16.00
Good	15.50-16.50	13.00-14.00	14.00-15.00
MUTTON:			
Good	8.50- 9.50	9.00-10.00	7.00- 8.00

FRESH PORK CUTS

LOINS:			
8-12 lb. average.....	\$23.50-24.00	\$24.50-25.50	\$23.50-25.00

WOOL MARKET BULLISH

J. E. P.

WOOL DEMAND CONTINUES HEALTHY. SALES volume varies from week to week, but is particularly active in the case of worsteds. Buying operations are active in the West, foreign prices have been well maintained, and the domestic piece-goods market is encouraging. Around, or in excess of, 10,000,000 pounds are going into consumption weekly, which is far from unsatisfactory, as mill buyers are chronically reluctant to purchase in excess of current requirements.

Western buying has substantially reduced available supply, and will diminish from now on. In Texas the unsold stock does not exceed 6,000,000 pounds, according to latest estimates.

No boom is expected in the piece-goods market, but that sphere is healthy, constantly absorbing a normal volume of fabrics. There is no disposition on the part of retailers to load their shelves, so that they are constantly in the market.

July was a slack month, but a decided pick-up occurred in August. Current business is of the direct-to-manufacturer type. Since activity was resumed about the middle of August, grease prices have been marked up 1 cent a pound; clean prices, 2 to 3 cents a pound. Average original bag territories, running well to fine and fine medium, are selling at 65 to 66 cents, clean; choice clips, running well to staple, are going at 68 to 70 cents. Good quality graded fine and half staple is quoted at 70 to 72 cents.

Medium territory grades have been neglected for fleece or farm wools, which maintain a relatively strong position, quarter-blood fleece being the market favorite. Frequently quarter-blood realizes more than three-eighths—an unusual condition. These two grades are quoted at 29 to 31 cents in the grease, for choice Ohio and Michigan types; 28 to 30 cents for average Mississippi Valley grown wool.

The foreign situation is promising. Parts of Australia, especially New South Wales, report heavy drought mortality,

which will materially reduce the southern hemisphere supply of fine wools. Curtailment of the domestic crop is an accepted fact. All this puts the world's wool trade in strong statistical position. Eastern dealers report that, at the present rate of consumption, visible supply is equal to about three months' requirements, justifying expectation of strong-to-rising prices. There is possibility, however, that current heavy consumption may not continue. Nevertheless, it is a real wool market at the moment. The bull side of the argument may be epitomized thusly: Demand is urgent for fine and fine medium descriptions, although medium wools are selling readily at distinctly better prices than during the July quiet spell; western wools, especially Texas, have been closely bought; in the north-western states demand is keen, at prices comparing closely with clean landed cost of current southwestern purchases; and in the bright-wool states a clean sweep has been made, with the exception of that portion of the 1935 clip in strong hands and held for more money.

COMPARATIVE LIVE-STOCK PRICES

BELOW ARE FIGURES SHOWING PRICES ON THE principal classes and grades of live stock at Chicago on September 3, 1935, compared with August 1, 1935, and August 31, 1934 (per 100 pounds):

SLAUGHTER STEERS:	Sept. 3, 1935	Aug. 1, 1935	Aug. 31, 1934
Choice (1,100 to 1,500 lbs.).....	\$11.50-12.80	\$11.00-12.00	\$ 9.75-10.75
Good	10.00-11.50	9.00-11.25	7.50-10.25
Choice (900 to 1,100 lbs.).....	11.50-12.50	11.00-11.75	8.75-10.25
Good	9.50-11.50	9.00-11.00	6.75- 9.75
Medium (900 lbs. up).....	7.50-10.00	7.00- 9.75	5.50- 8.00
FED YEARLING STEERS:			
Good to Choice.....	9.50-12.25	8.50-11.50	6.25- 9.00
HEIFERS:			
Good to Choice.....	9.00-11.75	8.50-11.00	6.00- 8.25
COWS:			
Good	5.25- 6.25	5.75- 6.50	4.25- 6.00
CALVES:			
Good to Choice.....	7.00-10.50	7.00- 9.75	4.50- 7.00
FEEDER AND STOCKER STEERS:			
Good to Choice.....	7.25- 9.25	6.75- 8.75	4.75- 5.75
Common to Medium.....	5.25- 7.25	5.25- 7.00	3.00- 4.75
HOGS:			
Medium Weights (200 to 250 lbs.)..	11.65-11.90	10.90-11.00	7.75- 7.95
LAMBS:			
Good to Choice (90 lbs. down).....	8.60- 9.50	7.50- 8.75	6.40- 6.85
EWES:			
Good to Choice.....	2.50- 3.50	2.85- 3.50	1.75- 2.75

Germany Launches Public-Works Program

A program for re-employment, through public-works operations that are expected to cost about \$500,000,000, has recently been launched in Germany. Money for the projects is to come from an international loan.

Russia Building 50,000 Tractors a Year

The Stalingrad tractor-manufacturing plant in Russia now has a capacity for turning out 50,000 tractors a year. Since the first Soviet-made tractor made its appearance five years ago the plant has built 150,000 machines.

Canada to Aid Dairy Industry

One million dollars will be advanced by the Canadian government this year to stabilize the dairy industry. The money will be used to support the cheese market until prices reach the level of butter prices, and are above world prices now received by Canadian cheese producers.

TRADE REVIEW

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS

IN THE FOLLOWING TABLES WE PRESENT FIGURES showing exports and imports of live animals, meat products, hides and skins, and unmanufactured wool and mohair for the first six months of the current year, as compared with the same period in 1934. It is notable that in the list of 1935 imports, only a few miscellaneous items under the hides and skins group are found in smaller quantities than in 1934, and even these are more than offset by a 50 per cent increase in imports of cattle hides:

LIVE ANIMALS

(Numbers)

EXPORTS

	1935	1934
Cattle	1,955	1,708
Hogs	203	2,309
Sheep and goats.....	8,134	192
Horses	360	1,054
Mules, asses, and burros.....	803	1,330
Totals	11,457	6,593

IMPORTS

	1935	1934
Cattle	230,581	50,562
Sheep and goats.....	3,787	1,351
Horses	3,432	2,342
Totals	237,800	54,255
Hogs (pounds)	46,734	266

MEAT PRODUCTS

(Pounds)

EXPORTS

	1935	1934
Beef and veal, fresh.....	2,372,453	2,313,885
Beef and veal, pickled.....	2,823,298	7,260,387
Horse meat	515,209	975,475
Mutton and lamb, fresh.....	344,670	318,247
Pork, fresh	8,103,973	18,425,014
Pork, pickled	5,471,372	9,162,280
Bacon	3,721,795	10,321,643
Cumberland and Wiltshire sides.....	161,033	191,468
Hams and shoulders.....	30,248,122	30,791,452
Poultry and game, fresh.....	828,888	1,498,744
Sausage	899,477	1,252,205
Canned meats	6,881,461	8,427,699

IMPORTS

	1935	1934
Beef and veal, fresh.....	4,852,526	104,384
Pork, fresh	1,452,286	95,008
Mutton and lamb, fresh.....	22,216	2,287
Other fresh meats.....	403,259	148,334
Beef and veal, cured.....	707,145	354,355
Hams and bacon.....	1,328,124	399,195
Pork, pickled	297,524	239,397
Poultry, fresh	133,190	78,557
Poultry, prepared	180,594	180,307
Canned meats	38,602,374	15,725,496

EDIBLE ANIMAL OILS AND FATS

(Pounds)

EXPORTS

	1935	1934
Lard	68,002,822	274,128,324
Neutral lard	726,893	2,090,976
Oleo oil	4,404,635	11,944,391
Totals	73,134,350	288,163,691

IMPORTS

	1935	1934
Edible animal oils and fats.....	6,954,254	34,831

HIDES AND SKINS

(Pounds)		
EXPORTS		
	1935	1934
Cattle hides	13,088,483	7,951,651
Kip and calf skins.....	7,140,018	2,597,923
Sheep and goat skins.....	913,622	829,759
Others	3,743,401	1,693,915
Totals	24,885,524	13,073,249
IMPORTS		
Cattle hides	60,105,216	40,057,750
Buffalo hides	380,138	334,044
Indian water-buffalo hides.....	621,194	616,839
Kip and calf skins.....	9,914,846	11,669,395
Horse, colt, and ass hides.....	4,078,490	3,847,855
Sheep and lamb skins.....	19,041,765	19,643,761
Goat and kid skins.....	37,556,875	41,729,267
Kangaroo skins	477,403	162,504
Deer and elk skins.....	1,200,421	1,353,776
Reptile skins	203,786	1,197,683
Others	2,920,112	2,482,601
Totals	136,500,246	123,095,475

WOOL

(Pounds)		
EXPORTS		
	1935	1934
Wool and mohair, unmanufactured	3,357	96,487
IMPORTS		
Wool and mohair, unmanufactured	81,654,732	68,262,821

Russian Agricultural Export Trade Declining

Value of agricultural products exported by Russia dropped from a yearly average of 1,051,000,000 gold rubles during 1909-13 to 119,000,000 rubles in 1934. In the former period, agricultural exports represented 70 per cent of all Russian exports, while in 1934 that percentage was 28.5.



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FOREIGN

ENGLISH LIVE-STOCK LETTER

BY JOSEPH RAYMOND
[Special Correspondence to The Producer]

LONDON, August 13, 1935.

CATTLE-BREEDING HAS RECEIVED A DECIDED impetus from the declaration of the Minister of Agriculture, Walter Elliot, that agreement, apparently satisfactory to all the countries concerned, has been reached at the meat talks in London, and that the government's future policy will give ample security to the beef-producer. The present cattle subsidy has been extended to October, 1936, when, it is hoped, details of what is termed Mr. Elliot's "long-term plan" will be published.

Conditions for farmers have certainly improved very considerably during the past few weeks. Concurrent with the summer agricultural shows and the abatement of foot-and-mouth disease, there has been a revival in the demand for pedigree stock for export. Bulls and heifers from noted Aberdeen-Angus, Shorthorn, and Hereford herds have been sent to the London quarantine station for export to South America, South Africa, New Zealand, and Australia.

Both the wholesale and the retail sections of the meat trade have now become accustomed to the beef subsidy, and see little harm to their interests in it, beyond the fact that animals submitted for the subsidy shall be graded on a sliding-scale basis. The butchers contend that the full subsidy should be paid only to cattle giving a 58 per cent carcass yield, the animals conforming with the lowest limit of 52 per cent being eligible for only 75 per cent of the subsidy. They also object to the subsidy being paid in respect to in-calf heifers and cow-heifers; but the Cattle Committee, appointed by the government to administer the subsidy, will not consent to any alteration in the existing arrangements.

Despite a period of drought, cattle are coming off the grass in remarkably good condition, although the continued spell of hot weather has been against good prices in the auction market. Supplies of fat steers have been ample for the quiet demand, and trade generally has been slow, at easier rates, particularly at some centers where numbers have been definitely in excess of requirements. On the other hand, prime light-weights are scarce and in steady request. Good stores are also in demand, but other grades are more difficult to clear, and are cheaper.

The best grades of fat steers are now making up to \$10.35 per live cwt., with stores quoted up to \$9.20. One of the effects of the government's Milk Marketing Scheme has been that farmers have restricted the supply of young cows to the market. As young cows are always in demand in the industrial districts, prices have risen to \$7.50 per live cwt.

Owing to farmers rushing ahead with the hay crops, vealers have been held back, with the result that the market is now flooded with heavy stirks, to the detriment of the best grades of young vealers, the best of which are making 25 cents a pound, while secondary grades are more difficult to cash in at 17 cents a pound.

Store sheep are now making a good trade, and are holding their value. Fat sheep are not so plentiful, and are in steady request at firm rates. First-quality clipped Downs and cross-breds are making around 20 cents a pound. At some of

the big markets, heavier offerings have led to slightly reduced prices for fat lambs, but most centers report a firmer trade, at higher prices. There has been a good fall of lambs this year in all districts, and farmers have been recouping in this direction their bad fortunes in regard to beef. First-quality lambs are averaging 25 cents a pound.

A curious position has arisen in regard to bacon pigs. Producers who are registered under the Bacon Marketing Scheme receive fixed contract prices. Owing to difficulty in fulfilling their contracts, and the risk of being fined very heavily by the board, they are buying hogs in the open markets from unregistered producers at nearly 3 cents a pound more than they receive from the curers.

In addition to the prospects of a bacon levy, and the necessity for providing for the administration of the levy, this big difference in prices is one of the matters that Mr. Elliot hopes to adjust by means of the new Bacon Development Scheme, which includes the formation of a Bacon Development Board. The development scheme has been instituted under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1933. Briefly summarized, the scheme provides for the establishment of a Bacon Development Board to which the Pigs and Bacon Marketing Boards each elect four members, and there will be three independent members, including the chairman. One of the main functions of the new board will be to license factories, certain conditions being imposed, and the board will be able to exercise certain powers only if requested by the two present boards. It will be able to settle contract problems and other matters of policy upon which the two boards are unable to agree, and will be able to carry out research work and advertising schemes. The cost of the Bacon Development Board to the industry will be limited to 2 cents a pig in 1935, and to 8 cents a pig after the end of the present year, the contributions being equally divided between the pigs and bacon boards.

The farmers themselves are protesting strongly against the scheme having been adopted on the vote of only eighty-nine producers, of whom sixteen were against, and ninety-eight curers, of whom forty-five were in opposition. They have pointed out that the vote was by no means fully representative, inasmuch as there are 150,000 registered pig-producers and 635 bacon-curers. The bone of contention is that, unlike the original Bacon Marketing Scheme and Pigs Marketing Scheme, majorities of two-thirds of the producers in number and in output were not required to approve the development scheme, and a bare majority of those voting being sufficient. However, the new scheme has been passed by Parliament, and it now remains to be seen whether the English pig-producer or the curer will get the best of it.

First-quality baconers and porkers are averaging \$2.80 and \$2.90, respectively, per score. Despite the warm weather, clearances of fat hogs have been made fairly easily, with fat sows rather dearer at several important markets. Good supplies of store hogs are in more active demand, and a sharper tone prevails, with prices showing a firmer tendency.

LIVE-STOCK INTERESTS IN AUSTRALIA

BY A. C. MILLS

[Special Correspondence to The Producer]

MELBOURNE, July 20, 1935.

PRACTICALLY THE WHOLE OF THE DROUGHT-stricken areas of the north have recorded heavy rains during the past few weeks, which have completely altered the outlook for graziers in those parts. As the break occurred in the middle of winter, it will necessarily take some time for

ground feed to grow. Top (scrub) feed, however, has been revived, and, with surface water supplies replenished, stock will be able to carry on until herbage and grasses are sufficiently forward to provide a bite. The re-establishment of the grasses will be assisted by the fact that the country is very lightly stocked. Apart from deaths, large numbers of cattle and sheep were shifted from the dry inland districts to the coastal belt, where conditions have not been so severe.

It is impossible to assess the cost of the drought at this stage. For one thing, no reliable estimate can be made as to actual stock losses, though it appears fairly safe to say that not far short of 500,000 head of cattle and 5,000,000 sheep perished as a direct result of the dry spell. To these must be added the loss of natural increase during the past six months and more. The amount spent in hand-feeding sheep in particular has been colossal, though probably not so great as in some previous droughts. To give an idea of what that can amount to, I quote the case of one company that has a number of large pastoral holdings in Queensland. During the drought before last it spent \$500,000 on fodder and in the distribution to its flocks. The tragedy in that particular case was that, despite its efforts, the company lost 100,000 sheep.

The immediate effect of the break in the weather has been to firm live-stock markets. This applies particularly to sheep in the north. Ewes which a month ago could have been bought at \$1 a head in Queensland are today worth at least \$3. Store cattle have also appreciated, but not in the same proportion. Owing, however, to weakness in overseas beef markets, there has been no material rise in the selling price of fat cattle in the north. Exporters operating in south Queensland are paying from \$5.75 to \$6 a hundred pounds, cold weights, for chiller-quality steers and bullocks, from \$5.50 to \$5.75 for best freezers, and from \$4.75 to \$5.30 for medium grades. The central Queensland packing-plants are offering \$5 a hundred, delivered, for first ox beef, and \$4.30 for second quality, while the buying rate at the meat-export works in the north of the state ranges from \$4.10 to \$4.30 a hundred pounds, delivered, for firsts, and from \$3.35 to \$3.60 for seconds.

The foregoing prices also approximate those paid for cattle slaughtered for local consumption in different parts of Queensland, and are likely to remain in force until about the end of July. As the export surplus of fats will be exhausted early in August, when the majority of the freezing-plants are expected to shut down, local rates then will probably rise. Killings for the overseas beef trade in August, September, and October promise to be insignificant, but may increase in November if the market offers sufficient inducements.

Shorter supplies and the usual improved winter demand for beef have firmed fat-cattle values in the southern states. Prime light steers have lately been selling on the basis of \$7.20 a hundred pounds in the Sydney and Melbourne yards, and average trade sorts up to \$6.75 a hundred.

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A trial, designed to demonstrate the practicability of transporting fat cattle long distances by motor truck, was completed last month. Inland Australia being poorly served by railroads, the usual method of moving stock is by droving. This, in good or normal seasons, is a relatively cheap, but necessarily very slow, means of transport. Apart from this, road travel generally means that cattle walk off their condition during a long trek, and there are risks of losses through encountering waterless stages or from stock eating poisonous plants. In drought time, of course, droving is quite out of the question, and that is one of the chief reasons why the Queensland packing-houses are closing down early this year.

The transport test was staged by the Mount Leonard Pastoral Company—owners of a large run in the southwest corner of Queensland—and though only small, so far as the numbers carried is concerned, the results indicate distinct possibilities in the use of motor lorries in dry country. A 43-horsepower, six-wheeled truck, fitted with a special superstructure, was used, and the load comprised twelve fat steers. It left the run at 11 A. M. on a Friday, and reached the rail-head at Broken Hill—617 miles distant—on the following Monday at midday, with the cattle in perfect condition.

It is not claimed that there was anything remarkable in the driving feat, though the journey was through country practically devoid of roads, as known in the settled areas. The point of interest is that, had the stock attempted to travel on the hoof, it would have been at least ten weeks on the road. As a matter of fact, at the time of the experiment it could not have got through, owing to drought conditions. Unfortunately, the cost of the transport was not divulged.

An outstanding instance of careful droving has lately come under notice. This refers to a mob of 1,000 head of station-bred cattle, which has just reached the border of Victoria from north Queensland. The mob has been on the road eleven months, and traveled 1,100 miles without loss. It was in charge of seven drovers with forty horses. At various points on the journey the cattle were rested and fed with lucerne hay, which was trucked to them from rail-heads.

The federal government, in conjunction with the Overseas Mechanical Transport Directing Committee, is endeavoring to solve inland transport by the use of Diesel-engined tractor-trailers. Tests carried out to date show that a unit carrying 15 tons spread over 24 wheels can transport goods at a cost of less than 8 cents a ton-mile in central Australia, as compared with the usual motor-lorry charge in those parts of from 18 to 30 cents a ton mile. At the time of writing, the unit is engaged in carrying sixteen young Shorthorn herd bulls from Katherine, on the solitary Northern Territory railroad, west to Wave Hill station—a distance of 300 miles, over a rough bush track.

NOTES FROM FOREIGN LANDS

Philippine Islands Use American Beef

In 1934 the United States supplied 77 per cent of the fresh beef imported into the Philippine Islands, as against 31 per cent in 1933.

Use of Farm Machinery in Spain

The Spanish Minister of Labor has decreed that farm machinery may not be used for more than 50 per cent of the labor on any farm, as a means of relieving farm unemployment.

Black Rust in Canada Causes Huge Loss

Wheat rust this year is expected to cause a loss to Canadian farmers of approximately \$100,000,000. The epidemic of black stem rust is reported to be the worst ever experienced in that country.

Manchuria Imports American Sheep

A flock of several hundred Merino sheep and rams, from Utah, Wyoming, and Nevada reached Dairen, Manchuria, in June. The importation was undertaken to improve the yield of wool, as the 4,000,000 head of native sheep are kept principally for their meat, and give wool of an indifferent quality.

Crops and Grasses in England

The acreage under crop and grass in England is reported to be as follows: various crops, 6,836,000 acres; permanent grass for hay, 4,822,000 acres; permanent grass not for hay, 10,955,000 acres. In Scotland, the area comprising crops only is 1,723,400 acres; that making up crops and permanent grasses is 4,599,700 acres.

FEEDSTUFFS

COTTONSEED CAKE AND MEAL ON SEPTEMBER 6
C was quoted at \$21.50 a ton, f. o. b. Texas points. Hay prices at Omaha on September 4 were as follows: alfalfa—choice leafy, \$12; No. 1, \$11.50; standard leafy, \$11; standard, \$10.50; No. 2, \$9.50; No. 3, \$7.50; sample, \$4 to \$5; upland prairie—No. 1, \$11; No. 2, \$9.50 to \$10.50; No. 3, \$8 to \$8.50; sample, \$4 to \$5; midland prairie—No. 1, \$9.50; No. 2, \$7 to \$8, sample, \$4, to \$5; mixed hay—No. 1, \$10.50 to \$11; No. 2, \$9 to \$10; No. 3, \$8 to \$9.

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ROUND THE RANGE

GOVERNMENT LIVE-STOCK AND RANGE REPORT

Western ranges have a good supply of feed, except in limited dry areas of the southern Great Plains. Cattle are in very good condition. Marketings promise to be light, but there is some tendency to sell at the high prices to meet financial obligations. Sheep are in excellent condition and an active demand for feeder lambs exists.

On September 1 condition by states was as follows:

Arizona.—Fall- and winter-range prospects good; desert ranges in south promising; live-stock generally in good flesh.

California.—Range- and pasture-feed situation continues favorable over entire state; abundant matured stubble and field and meadow pasturage available; feed-grain and hay crops good; stock water adequate; cattle and sheep generally in good condition, and prospects bright.

Colorado.—Fall feed prospects good, except in east-central and southeastern dry-land areas; hay and other feeds ample, with surplus in irrigated sections; cattle and sheep in good flesh, except in dry areas; cattle marketings to be light; most lambs will be fat.

Idaho.—Lower ranges dry and short in south; high ranges in good condition; hay and other feeds plentiful; stock in good flesh.

Kansas (western).—Native pastures continue poor in western counties, but fair in central parts, where ample moisture will make good wheat pastures; feed crops short in western areas; cattle in fair condition; northwestern counties expected to market liberally.

Montana.—Range feed short in parts of central, north-central, and western sections; generally good in other areas; hay and other feeds ample; stock in good flesh; cattle will be held in areas selling close in 1934; feeder lamb contracts heavy.

Nebraska (western).—Range territory mostly in excellent pasture; hay and feed range from ample to surplus; grass cured well; cattle in good condition, and optimism prevails.

Nevada.—Ranges continue dry, but have good feed; winter ranges good; stock in excellent condition; cattle and lambs showing good weights.

New Mexico.—Recent rains improved ranges; winter range-feed prospects good, except in few northeastern areas; cattle and sheep making good gains; feeder-lamb contracting active; hay and feed generally ample.

North Dakota.—Pastures and ranges good, as are crops of hay and feeds; stock in good flesh, and will be held where financial conditions permit.

Oklahoma.—Late rains helped pasture feeds, but more rain needed in west, northwest, north, and northeast; late feed crops revived, and will provide some feed; cattle should gain rapidly; feeds short in Panhandle and western sections.

Oregon.—High ranges in fair condition; lower ranges need rain; cattle and sheep in good condition, and sold freely on good demand; lambs in good flesh, and contracting active.

South Dakota (western).—Ranges good; winter feeds ample; sheep and cattle in good flesh; strong tendency exists to hold and rebuild herds and flocks.

Texas.—Winter range and feed outlook good except in northwestern Panhandle, west, and parts of north-central plains; feed crops ample, except in

drier areas; ranges good in most of sheep section; cattle good, and will be held closely; sheep and lamb contracting active.

Utah.—Range feed generally good; fair to good winter feed prospects; hay generally plentiful; stock in good flesh; many feeder lambs contracted.

Washington.—Summer ranges held up well; lower ranges dry; stubble pastures good; hay and grain supplies abundant; stock in good condition.

Wyoming.—Hay and feed crops ample; range feed good; stock in good condition; marketings limited; feeder lamb contracting active.

RANCHES, large or small, for sale, exchange, or lease, in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming, Montana, California, Canada, Central and South America, Africa, and islands of the sea. J. D. FREEMAN, Gunter Building, San Antonio, Texas.

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CATTLE ON FEED AUGUST 1

The estimated number of cattle on feed for market in the Corn Belt states on August 1, 1935, was 28.5 per cent smaller than on that date last year, according to Department of Agriculture figures, and the smallest on feed on August 1 in many years. Practically the entire reduction was in areas west of the Mississippi River, the number on feed in states east being little different from a year ago.

SOY-BEAN ACREAGE INCREASING

The soy bean, brought here from the orient, and improved year after year, has now become one of our im-

portant crops. In the past thirty years, its acreage has increased a hundred-fold—from 50,000 acres in 1907 to more than 5,000,000 in 1935. Soy beans are being grown in twenty-seven states, and this year American farmers have planted 5,463,000 acres—almost a third more acreage than in 1934. Much of this planting is in Corn Belt acreage taken out of corn under government contracts.

PREVIOUS OCCUPATIONS OF UNEMPLOYED

Former occupations of 3,485,000 persons between the ages of sixteen and sixty-four, on city relief rolls in May, 1934, were recently studied by the FERA. It was found that out of every 1,000 individuals in sixty representative cities, 444 had formerly earned their living in manufacturing and mechanical industries, 186 in domestic and personal service, 113 in transportation and communication, 91 in trade, 52 in agriculture, 47 in business offices, and 30 in mining.

1936 WHEAT ADJUSTMENT ACREAGE

Requirements on plantings in wheat by contract signers for the 1936 crop have been modified, so that signers may plant for 1936 a maximum of 95 per cent of their base acreage. This increased percentage, according to the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, is provided for primarily to assure domestic consumers of continued ample wheat supplies, and, in addition, it is expected to benefit farmers, by placing this country in a strengthened position in the world export market.

BUSINESS DONE BY CHAINS

Of all retail stores in the country, those of the chain systems make up about 10 per cent, and, in 1933, handled 25 per cent of all retail business, according to a recent article in *Merchandising Facts*. More than half of the 7,000-odd chains operate only two to five stores. A tenth of them conduct half the stores and handle two-fifths of the volume of sales. Five groups, in 1934, took in \$1,764,500,000—seven cents of every retail dollar spent in the United States.

Grocery chains get 45 per cent of all the retail grocery business; shoe chains, 45 per cent of the shoe business; cigar chains, 34 per cent; drug chains, 25 per cent; women's-apparel chains, 23 per cent; men's stores, 22 per cent; and restaurant chains, 15 per cent.

In the five years from 1929 to 1933, grocery chains lost a little ground to the independents. Shoe, combination grocery and meat, and cigar chains, on the other hand, made substantial gains.

Just Explain to the Judge.—"Is your husband a good provider, Dinah?"

"Yessum, he's a good providah all right, but I'm allus skeered dat nigger's gwine ter get caught at it."—*Montreal Daily Star*.

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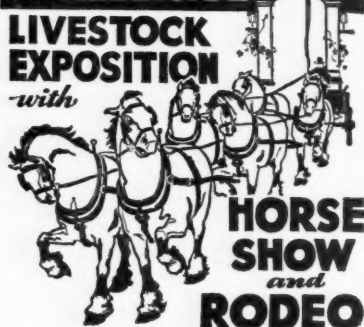
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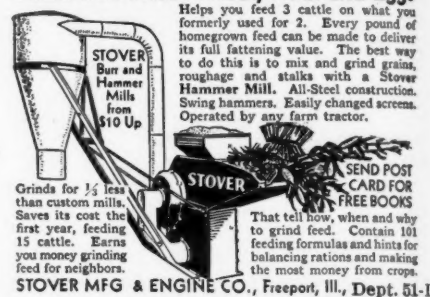
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Grinds for 1/4 less than custom mills. Saves its cost the first year, feeding 15 cattle. Earns you money grinding feed for neighbors.

Helps you feed 3 cattle on what you formerly used for 2. Every pound of homegrown feed can be made to deliver its full fattening value. The best way to do this is to mix and grind grains, roughage and stalks with a Stover Hammer Mill. All-Steel construction. Swing hammers. Easily changed screens. Operated by any farm tractor.

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Makes permanent brand with a cold iron. This scientific compound replaces hot irons for all livestock branding. Makes deep, dry scab that peels off. Adopted for official branding by Bureau of Animal Industry.

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"Buck" Hundley of Fort Worth says: "I have used Franklin Brand-em-ol for branding some 3,000 head of cattle during the past year. I am so well pleased with results that I will never put a hot iron on an animal again."

Send to nearest office for free descriptive leaflet. Half Pints 75c, Pints \$1.25, Qts. \$2.25, postpaid.

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Handsomely Shaped Heads

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